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ABSTRACT

This report presents a statistical portrait of the social and economic characteristics, primarily during the 1970s, of persons 65-years old and over. Most of the estimates in this report are based on data from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census and from the Decennial Censuses of Population and Housing, particularly the 1970 census. Other data are provided by various governmental agencies. The sample population extends over 461 areas comprising 923 counties and independent cities in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data are included on family, material status, and fertility; institutional population; nativity and parentage; mobility and residence; education, vocational training, and literacy; voting; veterans; labor force participation, employment status, and occupation and industry; income and earnings; low-income status of persons and families; housing; health and health services; and crime victimization. Appendixes include reliability tables of the estimates. (Author/RM)

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Social and Economic Characteristics of the Older Population 1974

PREFACE

This report was prepared by Elmore J. Seraile, Ethnic Origins Statistics Staff, Population Division. General direction was provided by Charles E. Johnson, Jr., Assistant Chief, Population Division, and Paul C. Glick, Senior Demographer, Population Division. Statistical assistance was provided by Nancy L. Swann, and clerical assistance by Annise L. Chapmon and Angela M. Britt. Editorial assistance was provided by Vivian J. Brown and Karen M. Mills. Sampling review of the report was conducted by Paul H. Tomlin and George F. Train of the Statistical Methods Division.

Appreciation is also expressed to the other government agencies which made data available, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, National Center for Health Statistics, Social Security Administration, and Veterans' Administration.

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	1
A century of growth	2
Family, marital status, and fertility	4
Institutional population	9
Nativity and parentage	11
Mobility and residence	14
Education, vocational training, and literacy	16
Voting	19
Veterans	22
Labor force participation, employment status, and occupation and industry	24
Income and earnings	31
Low-income status of persons and families	36
Housing	41
Health and health services	45
Crime victimization	50

DETAILED TABLES

A Century of Growth

Table		
1.	Population 65 years old and over, by sex, July 1, 1900 to July 1, 1974	3
2.	Projections of the total population and of the population 65 years old and over, by sex, for 5-year intervals: 1975 to 2000	3

Family, Marital Status, and Fertility

3.	Families with head 65 years old and over, by type and size: March 1974	5
4.	Age of family members by number of families and number of members: March 1974	5
5.	Household heads 65 years old and over, by type of head and presence of nonrelatives: March 1974	6
6.	Persons 65 years old and over in households, by relationship to head, sex, and race: 1970 and 1960	6
7.	Marital status of persons 65 years old and over, by race and sex: 1974, 1970, and 1960	7
8.	Marital status of persons 65 years old and over, by age and sex: 1970	7
9.	Marital status of persons 65 years old and over, by years of school completed and sex: 1970	8
10.	Number of children ever born to white and Negro women ever married, for women 65 years old and over: 1970	8

Institutional Population

11.	Inmates of institutions by type of institution for persons 65 years old and over, by sex: 1970	10

Nativity and Parentage

12.	Total population and population 65 years old and over, by nativity, parentage, and sex: 1970	12
13.	Foreign stock population by country of origin: 1970	13

Mobility and Residence

14.	Mobility of the population 65 years old and over and 4 years old and over, between March 1970 and March 1974, by sex	15
15.	Persons 65 years old and over, by metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence and sex: 1970	15

CONTENTS—Continued

DETAILED TABLES—Continued

Education, Vocational Training, and Literacy

Table		Page
16.	Years of school completed by persons 65 years old and over, by race and sex: 1974, 1970, and 1960	17
17.	Vocational training of persons 65 years old and over, by years of school completed, race, and sex: 1974, 1970, and 1960	17
18.	Literacy of persons 65 years old and over, by years of school completed, race, and sex: November 1969	18

Voting

19.	Reported registration and voter participation of persons 65 years old and over, by age, race, and sex: November 1974	20
20.	Reported registration and voter participation of total voting-age population and population 65 years old and over, by race and sex: November 1974	21

Veterans

21.	Period of service of civilian male veterans 65 years old and over, by race: 1970	23
22.	Recipients of veterans' benefits as of June 30, 1974	23

Labor Force Participation, Employment Status, and Occupation and Industry

23.	Labor force status of persons 65 years old and over, by race and sex: 1940 to 1974	26
24.	Place of work during census week for persons 65 years old and over living in SMSA's of 100,000 or more, by means of transportation and sex: 1970	26
25.	Labor force status and year last worked for the total and Negro population 65 years old and over, by sex: 1970	27
26.	Labor force status of persons 65 years old and over, and persons 55 to 64 years old, by years of school completed and sex: March 1972	27
27.	Labor force participation rates of persons 65 years old and over, and persons 55 to 64 years old, by years of school completed, sex, and race: March 1974	28
28.	Employment status of the noninstitutional population 65 years old and over, and 55 to 64 years old, by sex and race: March 1974	28
29.	Major occupation group of persons 65 years old and over, and persons 55 to 64 years old, by sex: 1973	29
30.	Employed persons 65 years old and over, and 55 to 64 years old, by class of worker and sex: March 1974	29
31.	Industry group of employed persons 65 years old and over, and 45 to 64 years old, by sex: 1970	30

Income and Earnings

32.	Total money income in 1973 of persons 65 years old and over, and 55 to 64 years old, by race and sex	32
33.	Total money income in 1973 of persons 62 years old and over, by age, and marital and family status	33
34.	Total income in 1973 for families and unrelated individuals, by type of family and age of head or unrelated individual 55 years old and over	33
35.	Total family income in 1973 for family members, by age, sex, and relationship to family head	34
36.	Median family income in 1969 of families with head 65 years old and over, by type of family, number of earners, and race of head	34
37.	Income in 1969 of unrelated individuals 65 years old and over, by type of income and race	35

Low-Income Status of Persons and Families

38.	Low-income status of persons in the total population and among persons 65 years old and over: 1966 to 1972	37
39.	Low-income status in 1973 of persons 65 years old and over, and 55 to 64 years old, by metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence and by race and sex	37
40.	Low-income status in 1973 of families and unrelated individuals, by sex and race of family head or unrelated individual 65 years old and over and 55 to 64 years old	38
41.	Educational attainment of head for families below the low-income level in 1973 with head 65 years old and over, by sex and race of head	39
42.	Persons 65 years old and over below the low-income level in 1969, by living arrangements and by race and sex	40

CONTENTS—Continued

DETAILED TABLES—Continued

Housing

Table — Page

43. Households by tenure for total households and households with head 65 years old and over, by region: 1970 42
44. Household composition for owner-occupied housing units with head 65 years old and over, by selected housing characteristics: 1970 43
45. Household composition for renter-occupied units with head 65 years old and over, by selected housing characteristics: 1970 44

Health and Health Services

46. Selected health indicators for total population and population 65 years old and over, by sex: 1972 46
47. Work disability for persons 60 to 64 years old, by race and sex: 1970 46
48. Limitation of mobility due to chronic conditions by degree of limitation, for persons 65 years old and over, by sex: 1972 47
49. Mean days of disability per person per quarter for all persons 65 years old and over, by type of disability and sex: 1972 47
50. Time interval since last physician and dental visit and visits per person per year, by sex, for persons 65 years old and over: 1972 48
51. Supplementary medical insurance (Medicare) utilization and average covered charges each calendar year: 1967-1971 49
52. Rank of major causes of death for persons 65 years old and over: 1972 49

Crime Victimization

53. Victimization rates for selected crimes against persons for the population 12 years old and over and 65 years old and over, by sex: first half of 1973 51
54. Victimization rates for selected crimes against households for household heads 12 years old and over and 65 years old and over: first half of 1973 51

APPENDIX

References for tables 52
Source and reliability of the estimates 53
Reliability of non-CPS data 58

APPENDIX TABLES

Table

A-1. Standard errors of estimated numbers, total or white population 55
A-2. Standard errors of estimated numbers, Negro and other races 55
A-3. Standard errors of estimated percentages, total or white population 56
A-4. Standard errors of estimated percentages, Negro and other races 56
A-5. Factors to be applied to tables A-1, A-2, A-3, and A-4 to estimate standard errors of the CPS data for different population characteristics 57
A-6. Standard errors of estimated fertility rates 59
A-7. Standard errors for estimated personal victimization rates from the National Crime Survey 59
A-8. Standard errors for estimated household victimization rates from the National Crime Survey 59

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OLDER POPULATION: 1974

INTRODUCTION

This report brings together, in a single publication, a variety of social and economic characteristics of the older population. Many of these statistics have already been published in Census Bureau and other governmental publications and are now being brought together as a matter of convenience to the interested user, but some data are being presented here for the first time. The data in this report are primarily from the 1970 census and the March 1974 Current Population Survey. Below are presented a few summary statistics, which became available shortly before publication, based on the March 1975 Current Population Survey.

Civilian noninstitutional population, 65 years old and over

(In thousands)

Subject	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*
AGE			
Total persons, 65 years and over	21,127	8,722	12,405
65 to 69 years	7,841	3,463	4,381
70 to 74 years	5,580	2,362	3,218
75 years and over	7,703	2,897	4,806
FAMILY STATUS			
In primary families	14,621	7,264	7,357
Head of family	8,030	6,923	1,107
Wife of head	4,589	(X)	4,589
In secondary families	4	3	1
Primary individual	6,229	1,345	4,884
Living alone	6,008	1,290	4,718
With nonrelatives	223	56	167
Secondary individual	272	109	163
In households	225	90	135
In group quarters	45	18	27
INCOME			
Median income of persons (dollars)	3,083	4,535	2,375
Median income of families with head 65 years and over (dollars)	7,298	7,234	7,723

X Not applicable.

INTRODUCTION—Continued

For purposes of this report, the "older" population is defined as the population 65 years old and over. The lower limit has been arbitrarily placed at 65 years in recognition of a number of factors which, over the years, have combined to make the attainment of age 65 a milestone—for example, a time for retirement, Social Security benefits and Medicare coverage, income tax advantages, and reduction in transit fares and admission prices. This is also an age group which has come to be identified with low income, widowhood, and loneliness. In some tables, comparative statistics are shown for segments of the population below age 65 as well, particularly the 55 to 64 year olds. In a number of areas, especially those of an economic nature, there are dramatic differences between the age groups 55 to 64 and 65 and over. For many persons, the 10 years prior to their 65th birthday represent their peak years—or high plateau years—of earning power and of income per family member; in sharp contrast, this period is followed by the reduced income of their retirement years.

There are striking differences in a number of areas among segments of the elderly and between the elderly and the younger adult population. There are also similarities in some facets of their lifestyle. These similarities and differences are explored in relation to such characteristics as family and marital status, institutional population, nativity and parentage, mobility, residence, educational attainment, vocational training, voting rates, veteran status, labor force participation, occupation and industry, income and earnings, low-income status, housing, factors relating to health and to the utilization of health services, and crime victimization.

A CENTURY OF GROWTH

Since the turn of the century, the population 65 years old and over has increased at a rate more than twice that of the total population. While the total population has roughly tripled from 76 million in 1900 to 212 million in 1974, the population 65 and over has increased from 3 million to 22 million. Persons 65 and over constituted about 4 percent of the 1900 population but now constitute 10 percent of the total population.

The female population 65 and over has grown even faster. Counts of men and women of this age were quite similar during the earlier censuses of this century, but women 65 and over now outnumber the men 12.8 million to 9.0 million.

The 65 and over segment of the population is expected to climb by the year 2000 to about 30.6 million persons, an increase of about 40 percent over the present number. It would then comprise, depending upon the level of future fertility, as much as one-eighth of the total population.

Table 1. POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, JULY 1, 1900 TO JULY 1, 1974

(Numbers in thousands. Total population including Armed Forces overseas, except 1900 to 1930)

Year	All ages			65 years and over			Percent 65 years and over		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1974	211,909	103,454	108,455	21,815	8,966	12,849	10.3	8.7	11.8
1970	204,879	100,266	104,613	20,085	8,405	11,680	9.8	8.4	11.2
1960	180,671	89,320	91,352	16,675	7,542	9,133	9.2	8.4	10.0
1950	152,271	75,819	76,422	12,397	5,857	6,541	8.1	7.7	8.6
1940	132,122	66,352	65,770	9,031	4,410	4,621	6.8	6.6	7.0
1930	123,077	62,297	60,780	6,705	3,359	3,346	5.4	5.4	5.5
1920	106,461	54,291	52,170	4,929	2,485	2,444	4.6	4.6	4.7
1910	92,407	47,554	44,853	3,986	2,006	1,980	4.3	4.2	4.4
1900	76,094	38,867	37,227	3,099	1,565	1,534	4.1	4.0	4.1

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 2. PROJECTIONS OF THE TOTAL POPULATION AND OF THE POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, FOR 5-YEAR INTERVALS: 1975 TO 2000

(Numbers in thousands)

Series and sex	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
Series 1[1]						
Total population, all ages	213,641	225,705	241,274	257,663	272,685	287,007
Male	104,244	109,979	117,560	125,605	133,001	140,072
Female	109,397	115,726	123,714	132,058	139,685	146,935
Series 3[2]						
Total population, all ages	213,323	220,356	228,355	235,581	241,198	245,098
Male	104,081	107,238	110,940	114,290	116,871	118,617
Female	109,242	113,118	117,415	121,291	124,326	126,481
Both sexes, 65 years and over	22,330	24,523	26,659	28,933	30,307	30,600
65 to 69 years	8,097	8,663	9,161	9,861	9,609	9,023
70 to 74 years	5,784	6,749	7,228	7,671	8,258	8,056
75 years and over	8,449	9,112	10,270	11,402	12,439	13,521
Male, 65 years and over	9,147	9,914	10,684	11,518	11,995	12,041
Female, 65 years and over	13,182	14,609	15,975	17,415	18,311	18,558
Both sexes, 65 years and over as percent of total population, all ages:						
Series 1	10.5	10.9	11.0	11.2	11.1	10.7
Series 3	10.5	11.1	11.7	12.3	12.6	12.5

[1]Assumes 2.7 births per woman.
[2]Assumes 1.7 births per woman.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

FAMILY, MARITAL STATUS, AND FERTILITY

Persons 65 years old and over tend to live with few other persons and with relatives only. In 1974, about 80 percent of all families with a head of this age consisted of two persons. Only about 2 percent of the households headed by a persons 65 or over included nonrelatives of the head. Women living alone or with nonrelatives only accounted for a significant portion—about one-third—of all household heads 65 years and over. This type of household was second in this age group to husband-wife households, which accounted for about 46 percent of all households headed by persons 65 or over.

Around one-sixth (18 percent) of the families in the Nation contain at least one member who is 65 years old and over, although family members at this age level accounted for only about 8 percent of all family members.

The proportion of men 65 years and over who were household heads increased from 87 percent in 1960 to 91 percent in 1970. Among women, the corresponding increase was from 38 percent to 45 percent. During the same period, the proportion of men who were the father or the father-in-law of the household head decreased from 7 percent to 4 percent, and the proportion of women who were the mother or the mother-in-law of the head decreased from 17 to 13 percent.

The most common marital status among men 65 and over is to be married, with a wife present. Because men are usually older than their wives and have higher mortality rates, widowhood is the most common state among women of this age group. In 1974, about 78 percent of white men 65 and over, and 60 percent of Negro men, were married with a wife present. Corresponding percentages of women with husband present were 38 and 26 percent. About half (52 percent) the white women and 64 percent of Negro women were widowed, compared with 14 percent of white men and 23 percent of Negro men.

As would be expected, the proportion of persons with their spouse present declines with increasing age while the proportion widowed increases. By age 85 and over, the proportion of men who are married is about the same as for those who are widowed, about 43 percent in 1970, whereas for women the discrepancy was considerable, 11 percent married compared with 77 percent widowed. For all ages 65 and over, the proportion of men who are single and who are divorced, however, are very similar to those for women. Overall, about 8 percent of men and women 65 and over had never married, and about 3 percent were divorced.

Education is related to marital status and to the factors affecting marital status. The proportion of men in 1970 who were married and with their wives present tended to increase with increased educational attainment and the proportion of those who were widowed tended to decrease. However, among men 65 years old and over, there was little difference in the percent who were single according to years of school completed.

Women 65 years old and over, unlike men, showed marked differences in the percent single between the lower and the higher levels of education. Among all women of these ages in 1970, about 8 percent were single compared with about 19 percent of those who had completed 4 years of college and about 36 percent of those who had completed 5 or more years of college. Although it is beyond the scope of this report, it would be interesting to know the extent to which these differences are attributable to such factors as: (a) the reluctance of some men to marry more highly educated women, (b) the rejection of marital opportunities by a woman while pursuing an education and then not finding acceptable opportunities later, or (c) a conscious choice on the part of a woman to prepare for a career without marriage.

White women, 65 years old and over, had borne fewer children on the average than had Negro women of the same ages, about 2.8 children for white women who were ever married compared with about 3.1 for Negro women, according to 1970 census data. Among both white and Negro women, those well above 65 years of age had borne more children on the average than had those just above 65 years, reflecting the higher fertility rates of the earlier cohorts.

Table 3. FAMILIES WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY TYPE AND SIZE: MARCH 1974

Size of family	Head 65 years and over		
	Total[1]	Husband-wife	Female head
All families.....thousands..	7,885	6,450	1,135
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
2 persons.....	79.9	81.9	72.4
3 persons.....	12.8	12.2	14.1
4 persons.....	3.9	3.7	4.9
5 persons.....	1.6	1.0	4.1
6 persons.....	0.9	0.5	2.3
7 persons or more.....	0.9	0.7	2.2

[1]Includes families with "other male head," not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 4. AGE OF FAMILY MEMBERS BY NUMBER OF FAMILIES AND NUMBER OF MEMBERS: MARCH 1974

Age of members	Number (thousands)	Percent
Total families.....	55,053	([1])
With members:		
Under 18 years.....	31,100	56.5
18 to 64 years.....	50,931	92.5
65 years and over.....	9,743	17.7
Total members.....	189,361	100.0
Under 18 years.....	66,850	35.3
18 to 64 years.....	108,201	57.1
65 years and over.....	14,310	7.6

[1]Adds to more than 100.0 since a family may have members in more than one age category.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 5. HOUSEHOLD HEADS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY TYPE OF HEAD AND PRESENCE OF NONRELATIVES: MARCH 1974

Presence of nonrelatives	Total households with head 65 and over	Primary families			Primary individuals	
		Husband-wife	Other male head	Female head	Male	Female
Total heads, 65 years and over....thousands..	13,879	6,448	298	1,134	1,331	4,668
Percent, by type of head.....	100.0	46.5	2.1	8.2	9.6	33.6
Percent, by presence of nonrelative.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No nonrelatives.....	97.9	99.5	98.2	98.5	95.8	96.3
1 nonrelative.....	1.9	0.5	1.8	1.5	3.9	3.4
2 or more nonrelatives.....	0.2	0.1	-	-	0.3	0.3

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 6. PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER IN HOUSEHOLDS, BY RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD, SEX, AND RACE: 1970 AND 1960

Sex and relationship	1970			1960		
	All races[1]	White	Negro	All races	White	Negro and other races
MALE						
Total persons 65 years and over in households.....thousands...	8,073	7,330	666	6,985	6,420	565
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head.....	90.8	91.3	85.7	86.8	87.2	82.4
Parent of head or wife.....	4.4	4.4	4.1	6.9	6.9	6.5
Other relative of head.....	3.0	2.8	5.2	3.6	3.4	5.0
Nonrelative of head.....	1.9	1.5	5.1	2.8	2.5	6.1
FEMALE						
Total persons 65 years and over in households.....thousands..	10,925	9,991	863	8,442	7,802	640
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head.....	45.2	44.8	49.8	38.2	37.9	42.7
Wife of head.....	35.[illegible]	36.2	26.3	35.6	36.3	26.7
Parent of head or wife.....	12.7	12.6	13.5	16.8	16.8	18.0
Other relative of head.....	5.1	4.9	7.4	6.8	6.6	8.6
Nonrelative of head.....	1.7	1.6	3.0	2.6	2.4	4.1

[1] Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 7. MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE AND SEX: 1974, 1970, AND 1960

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Marital status and race	Male			Female		
	1974	1970	1960	1974	1970	1960
WHITE						
Total, 65 years and over....thousands..	7,727	7,661	6,720	11,027	10,692	8,239
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	4.5	7.4	7.8	6.5	8.3	8.8
Married, spouse present	78.4	69.5	67.7	38.2	34.5	35.4
Married, spouse absent	1.4	3.6	3.5	1.2	2.3	2.5
Widowed	13.6	16.5	18.7	51.5	51.7	51.3
Divorced	2.1	2.9	2.3	2.6	3.1	2.0
NEGRO						
Total, 65 years and over....thousands..	715	691	[1]589	956	891	[1]660
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	5.2	8.1	6.6	4.7	6.1	4.4
Married, spouse present	59.6	55.7	58.5	25.5	26.1	26.9
Married, spouse absent	9.1	8.6	8.1	3.2	6.0	5.3
Widowed	22.8	23.7	24.4	64.0	58.1	61.4
Divorced	3.6	3.9	2.5	2.6	3.8	2.0

[1]Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 8. MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE AND SEX: 1970

Marital status and sex	Total, 65 years and over	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 to 79 years	80 to 84 years	85 years and over
MALE						
Total.....thousands..	8,433	3,116	2,324	1,580	876	537
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	7.5	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.6	10.8
Married	72.4	80.6	75.8	68.8	58.0	43.4
Spouse present	68.3	76.9	72.1	64.5	52.9	37.7
Spouse absent	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.3	5.1	5.7
Separated	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Other	2.6	2.0	2.3	3.0	3.8	4.4
Widowed	17.1	8.8	13.8	21.2	32.0	43.4
Divorced	3.0	3.5	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.4
FEMALE						
Total.....thousands..	11,658	3,897	3,116	2,284	1,400	961
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	8.1	7.4	7.8	8.4	8.8	10.7
Married	36.5	52.0	40.0	27.9	17.2	10.7
Spouse present	33.9	49.1	37.4	25.4	14.8	8.5
Spouse absent	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.3
Separated	1.0	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.6
Other	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7
Widowed	52.2	36.5	49.0	61.1	71.9	76.9
Divorced	3.2	4.1	3.3	2.7	2.1	1.7

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 9. MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED AND SEX: 1970

Years of school completed and sex	Total (thousands)	Percent by marital status							
		Total	Single	Married				Widowed	Divorced
				Spouse present		Spouse absent			
				Total	Married once	Separated	Other		
Male, 65 years old and over.....	8,433	100.0	7.5	68.3	53.0	1.5	2.6	17.1	3.0
Elementary: Less than 5 years.....	1,343	100.0	9.8	57.9	42.3	2.6	3.0	23.5	3.2
5 to 7 years.....	1,803	100.0	8.0	65.1	50.5	1.7	2.8	19.2	3.2
8 years.....	2,055	100.0	7.1	69.3	55.1	1.2	2.6	17.0	2.9
High school: 1 to 3 years.....	1,204	100.0	6.6	72.3	56.3	1.4	2.5	14.1	3.2
4 years.....	994	100.0	6.6	72.6	56.5	1.1	2.5	14.1	3.0
College: 1 to 3 years.....	504	100.0	6.1	75.6	58.2	0.9	2.3	12.3	2.8
4 years.....	296	100.0	6.1	76.3	60.8	0.8	2.2	12.1	2.5
5 years or more.....	233	100.0	7.4	77.7	62.1	0.6	2.5	9.8	2.0
Median school years completed.....	8.5	(X)	8.3	8.7	8.7	7.7	8.4	8.2	8.4
Female, 65 years old and over....	11,658	100.0	8.1	33.9	27.5	1.0	1.0	52.2	3.2
Elementary: Less than 5 years.....	1,436	100.0	6.8	26.2	20.5	1.7	1.7	61.3	2.4
5 to 7 years.....	2,208	100.0	5.6	31.6	25.0	1.4	1.7	56.8	2.9
8 years.....	2,808	100.0	6.2	35.1	28.6	0.9	1.7	53.4	2.8
High school: 1 to 3 years.....	1,863	100.0	7.5	35.9	28.6	1.0	1.5	50.4	3.7
4 years.....	1,898	100.0	9.6	37.1	30.5	0.7	1.4	47.6	3.6
College: 1 to 3 years.....	879	100.0	10.9	37.3	31.4	0.6	1.4	46.0	3.9
4 years.....	388	100.0	18.7	36.2	31.4	0.6	1.5	39.5	3.5
5 years or more.....	179	100.0	35.7	26.7	22.5	0.6	1.3	30.6	5.0
Median school years completed.....	8.8	(X)	10.7	8.9	8.9	8.2	8.6	8.6	9.4

X Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 10. NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO WHITE AND NEGRO WOMEN EVER MARRIED, FOR WOMEN 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: 1970

Age and race	Women ever married (thousands)	Children ever born	
		Number (thousands)	Per 1,000 women ever married
WHITE			
65 years old and over.....	9,803	27,039	2,758
65 to 69 years.....	3,247	8,026	2,472
70 to 74 years.....	2,638	7,080	2,684
75 to 79 years.....	1,944	5,690	2,927
80 to 84 years.....	1,189	3,712	3,122
85 years old and over.....	786	2,532	3,221
NEGRO			
65 years old and over.....	837	2,627	3,137
65 to 69 years.....	336	966	2,873
70 to 74 years.....	217	656	3,018
75 to 79 years.....	137	454	3,324
80 to 84 years.....	80	289	3,611
85 years old and over.....	67	261	3,923

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION

Approximately 1 million persons 65 years and over were living in institutions in 1970. About 8 out of 10 of these were in homes for the aged and another 1 out of 10 were in mental hospitals and residential treatment centers. The remainder were patients in hospitals because of physical reasons or were inmates of correctional and other institutions. About twice as many women as men were in institutions, reflecting their greater incidence in homes for the aged which is in harmony with their greater numbers among the older population. (The institutional population was counted in the census but was excluded from the Current Population Survey. Similarly, all members of the Armed Forces were included in the census, but in CPS only those members of the Armed Forces in the United States living off post or living with their families on post were included.)

Table 11. INMATES OF INSTITUTIONS BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX: 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of institution	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total persons, 65 years and over.....	968	100.0	314	100.0	654	100.0
Prisons and reformatories.....	2	0.2	2	0.6	-	-
Local jails and workhouses.....	2	0.2	2	0.6	-	-
Mental hospitals and residential treatment centers.....	113	11.7	51	16.2	62	9.5
Tuberculosis hospitals.....	5	0.5	3	1.0	2	0.3
Chronic disease hospitals.....	35	3.6	16	5.1	19	2.9
Homes for the aged and dependent.....	796	82.2	234	74.5	562	85.9
All other.....	15	1.5	6	1.9	9	1.4

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

NATIVITY AND PARENTAGE

Persons 65 years and over comprise a larger share—about one in every five overall—of the foreign stock population (the foreign born plus native persons of foreign or mixed parentage) than of the total population (1 in every 10). One-third of the foreign-born population and one-sixth of native persons of foreign or mixed parentage were 65 years and older.

For the 33.6 million population of foreign stock (of all ages) in 1970, the leading countries of origin were Italy, Germany, and Canada. There was wide variation by country in the age distribution of persons who were foreign stock. There were some countries of origin, for example, from which as many as 1 of every 3 persons of foreign stock was 65 years or over—Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Norway, and Sweden—and others from which less than 1 in 10 was 65 and over—Cuba, China, Japan, and Mexico. These differences reflect in large part the periods during which immigrants from various countries entered the United States, with the latter groups representing immigration of a more recent period.

Table 12. TOTAL POPULATION AND POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY NATIVITY, PARENTAGE, AND SEX: 1970

Nativity and parentage	Total	Male	Female
TOTAL POPULATION			
All ages.....thousands..	203,210	98,882	104,328
Median age.....	28.1	26.8	29.3
Persons 65 years and over.....thousands..	20,101	8,436	11,665
As percent of all ages.....	9.9	8.5	11.2
NATIVE OF NATIVE PARENTAGE			
All ages.....thousands..	169,635	82,989	86,646
Median age.....	24.4	23.5	25.3
Persons 65 years and over.....thousands..	13,126	5,440	7,686
As percent of all ages.....	7.7	6.6	8.9
NATIVE OF FOREIGN OR MIXED PARENTAGE			
All ages.....thousands..	23,956	11,489	12,467
Median age.....	47.3	46.2	48.2
Persons 65 years and over.....thousands..	3,900	1,606	2,293
As percent of all ages.....	16.3	14.0	18.4
FOREIGN BORN			
All ages.....thousands..	9,619	4,404	5,216
Median age.....	52.0	52.2	51.9
Persons 65 years and over.....thousands..	3,075	1,389	1,686
As percent of all ages.....	32.0	31.5	32.3

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 13. FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: 1970

Country of origin	Total foreign stock		Foreign stock 65 years and over	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
All countries	33,575	100.0	6,975	20.8
United Kingdom	2,465	7.3	657	26.7
Ireland	1,450	4.3	466	32.1
Norway	615	1.8	220	35.8
Sweden	806	2.4	311	38.6
Denmark	326	1.0	114	35.0
Netherlands	384	1.1	78	20.3
France	343	1.0	82	23.9
Germany	3,622	10.8	1,275	35.2
Poland	2,374	7.1	432	18.2
Czechoslovakia	760	2.3	173	22.8
Austria	975	2.9	245	25.1
Hungary	604	1.8	118	19.5
Yugoslavia	447	1.3	60	13.4
U.S.S.R.	1,943	5.8	480	24.7
Lithuania	331	1.0	67	20.2
Greece	435	1.3	53	12.2
Italy	4,241	12.6	680	16.0
China	339	1.0	24	7.1
Japan	394	1.2	35	8.9
Canada	3,035	9.0	550	18.1
Mexico	2,339	7.0	144	6.2
Cuba	561	1.7	33	5.9
Other West Indies	385	1.1	29	7.5
Other Central and South America	578	1.7	22	3.8
All other	2,783	8.3	418	15.0

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

MOBILITY AND RESIDENCE

Persons 65 and over change residence infrequently—at less than half the rate of the total population. About four out of five persons (79 percent) 65 and over lived in the same house in 1974 as they did in 1970. Even so, 3.5 million persons 65 and over moved during the 4-year period; many of those who moved (60 percent) remained within the same county.

About two out of three persons 65 and over lived in metropolitan areas in 1970, and about half of these lived in the central cities. In nonmetropolitan areas, a small percentage lived on farms, whereas the bulk of the residents were about equally divided between urban and rural-nonfarm areas.

Table 14. MOBILITY OF THE POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER AND 4 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BETWEEN MARCH 1970 AND MARCH 1974, BY SEX

Mobility status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	4 years and over	65 years and over	4 years and over	65 years and over	4 years and over	65 years and over
Total population.....thousands..	194,965	20,602	94,238	8,528	100,727	12,074
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Same house (nonmovers).....	57.4	78.6	56.7	78.6	58.1	78.6
Different house in U.S. (movers).....	37.2	17.1	37.5	17.0	36.9	17.1
Same county.....	22.3	10.3	22.3	10.1	22.3	10.4
Different county.....	14.9	6.8	15.2	6.9	14.5	6.7
Within State.....	7.3	3.5	7.4	3.5	7.2	3.5
Between States.....	7.6	3.3	7.8	3.4	7.4	3.2
Contiguous.....	2.4	1.1	2.4	1.0	2.3	1.1
Noncontiguous.....	5.2	2.2	5.4	2.4	5.0	2.1
No report on mobility status[1].....	5.4	4.3	5.8	4.5	5.1	4.3

[1]Also includes movers who were abroad in March 1970.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 15. PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY METROPOLITAN-NONMETROPOLITAN RESIDENCE AND SEX: 1970

Residence	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total, 65 years and over..thousands..	20,102	8,438	11,664
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Metropolitan.....	64.2	62.5	65.4
Central cities.....	34.1	32.4	35.4
Other urban.....	23.5	22.8	24.0
Rural nonfarm.....	5.3	5.8	5.0
Rural farm.....	1.2	1.5	1.0
Nonmetropolitan.....	35.8	37.5	34.6
Urban.....	15.4	14.5	16.0
Rural nonfarm.....	16.2	17.6	15.1
Rural farm.....	4.3	5.4	3.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND LITERACY

The recent strides in education which are so clearly evident in the younger population are also manifested in the population 65 and over, although for the most part that segment of the population completed their education prior to 1935. About 33 percent of the white men 65 and over had at least a high school education in 1974, compared with 26 percent for this age group in 1970 and 18 percent in 1960, reflecting increased educational attainment levels of younger cohorts. Among white women, 36 percent had completed at least 4 years of high school in 1974, compared with 31 percent in 1970 and 22 percent in 1960. Data for Negro men and women in this age group appear to show similar trends but their numbers are too small to detect statistical significance in their apparent differences.

In 1970, about 21 percent of men 65 and over and 18 percent of women of the same ages had completed some type of vocational training program. Among both men and women, the proportion completing a vocational program tended to be higher as education increased but dropped off slightly among college graduates. About 18 percent of the men with less than a high school education had completed a program, compared with about 31 percent of high school graduates who had not gone on to college. About 26 percent of male college graduates had completed a vocational training program.

Among women 65 and over, about 13 percent of those with less than a high school education had completed a vocational training program; corresponding percentages for high school graduates and college graduates were 29 percent and 24 percent, respectively.

The most recent survey on literacy (1969) indicated that about 650,000 persons or 19 percent of the 3.5 million persons 65 and over with less than a sixth grade education were illiterate, that is, they could not read and write in any language. (This survey, by definition, included in the literate category all persons having a sixth grade education or more.) Women were somewhat more likely to be illiterate than men (21 percent compared with 16 percent), and Negroes 65 and over were about twice as likely to be illiterate as white older persons (31 percent compared with 15 percent). About one-half of the 1 million persons who had completed less than 2 years of school were illiterate compared with about 20 percent of those who completed 2 years of school and 8 percent of those who completed 3 years of school.

Table 16. YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE AND SEX: 1974, 1970, AND 1960

Years of school completed and race	1974		1970		1960	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
WHITE						
Total, 65 years and over..thousands..	7,727	11,027	7,664	10,696	6,720	8,239
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Elementary: Less than 5 years	10.3	8.8	13.1	10.2	20.5	15.6
5 to 7 years	16.1	14.6	20.5	17.7	23.2	20.4
8 years	25.9	24.5	25.8	25.0	27.4	28.8
High school: 1 to 3 years	14.4	15.6	14.8	16.4	10.9	13.3
4 years	17.5	22.0	12.7	17.5	8.2	12.2
College: 1 to 3 years	6.5	8.3	6.3	8.1	5.2	6.4
4 years or more	9.2	6.2	6.8	5.2	4.6	3.3
NEGRO						
Total, 65 years and over..thousands..	715	956	692	894	[1]589	[1]660
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Elementary: Less than 5 years	45.2	32.1	44.2	33.4	[illegible].1	48.8
5 to 7 years	27.0	29.4	27.4	30.2	21.6	25.7
8 years	10.8	12.2	10.7	13.1	9.5	11.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	7.3	13.6	8.9	11.8	5.1	6.6
4 years	4.3	7.9	4.9	6.4	3.4	4.1
College: 1 to 3 years	2.9	2.2	2.2	2.7	1.8	2.0
4 years or more	2.5	2.5	1.8	2.4	1.5	1.4

[1]Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 17. VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, RACE, AND SEX: 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Years of school completed	All races[1]		White		Negro	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total, 65 years and over	8,433	11,658	7,661	10,692	691	891
Percent completed training program	20.7	17.7	21.4	18.2	13.5	11.9
Less than 4 years of high school	6,406	8,314	5,710	7,464	630	789
Percent completed training program	17.7	13.2	18.3	13.6	11.8	9.8
High school 4 years	994	1,898	952	1,833	34	55
Percent completed training program	31.0	28.6	31.1	28.6	29.3	26.6
College 1 to 3 years	504	879	487	851	14	25
Percent completed training program	33.8	32.2	33.8	32.0	33.4	34.8
College 4 years or more	529	567	512	544	14	21
Percent completed training program	25.8	23.7	25.6	23.6	31.8	25.8

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 18. LITERACY OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, RACE, AND SEX: NOVEMBER 1969

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Years of school completed and illiteracy	All races[1]			White			Negro		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total, 65 years and over, less than 6....	3,495	1,678	1,819	2,684	1,296	1,387	753	354	400
Percent illiterate.....	18.6	16.2	20.8	14.8	12.1	17.2	30.5	29.4	31.5
No school years completed.....	815	335	481	612	246	366	165	74	90
Percent illiterate.....	50.3	45.1	54.3	44.9	39.8	48.6	70.3	(B)	77.8
1 school year completed.....	167	88	80	99	55	44	68	32	36
Percent illiterate.....	49.7	46.6	52.5	37.4	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
2 school years completed.....	339	186	153	243	128	115	91	54	38
Percent illiterate.....	19.8	19.4	20.3	16.0	11.7	20.0	28.6	(B)	(B)
3 school years completed.....	651	340	311	498	260	237	150	77	73
Percent illiterate.....	8.3	7.9	8.7	6.2	5.4	6.8	16.0	16.9	(B)
4 school years completed.....	715	366	349	562	296	267	144	65	80
Percent illiterate.....	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.7	2.4	3.0	4.9	(B)	3.8
5 school years completed.....	808	363	445	670	311	358	135	52	83
Percent illiterate.....	1.5	1.7	1.3	-	-	-	8.9	(B)	7.2

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.
[1] Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

VOTING

About three out of every four persons 65 years old and over reported that they were registered to vote in the 1972 Presidential election. About five out of every six of those who were registered reported that they had voted. Higher percentages of persons aged 65 to 74 voted than did those 75 years and over (68 percent compared with 56 percent); higher percentages of men than women 65 and over voted (71 percent compared with 58 percent); and higher percentages of white persons than Negroes of this age voted (65 percent compared with 51 percent).

In the 1974 Congressional election, about 70 percent of persons 65 and over were reported registered as against 76 percent in the Presidential election of 1972, and just about half (51 percent) reported voting in 1974 compared with 64 percent in 1972. (Voter turnout is usually smaller in non-Presidential election years.) Still, persons 65 and over were more likely to register than the total population (62 percent) and, having registered, were also more likely to vote (51 percent versus 45 percent).

Table 19. REPORTED REGISTRATION AND VOTER PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, RACE, AND SEX: NOVEMBER 1972

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Age, race, and sex	Total persons (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total persons	Reported they were registered			Reported not registered[2]
			Total	Reported voted	Reported did not vote[1]	
ALL RACES[3]						
Both sexes, 65 years and over	20,074	100.0	75.6	63.5	12.1	24.4
65 to 74 years	12,608	100.0	78.5	68.1	10.3	21.5
75 years and over	7,466	100.0	70.7	55.6	15.1	29.3
Male, 65 years and over	8,348	100.0	81.9	70.7	11.2	18.1
65 to 74 years	5,470	100.0	82.9	73.2	9.7	17.1
75 years and over	2,878	100.0	80.0	65.9	14.1	20.0
Female, 65 years and over	11,726	100.0	71.1	58.4	12.7	28.9
65 to 74 years	7,138	100.0	75.1	64.3	10.8	24.9
75 years and over	4,588	100.0	64.9	49.1	15.8	35.1
WHITE						
Both sexes, 65 years and over	18,307	100.0	76.5	64.8	11.7	23.5
65 to 74 years	11,434	100.0	79.3	69.4	9.9	20.7
75 years and over	6,873	100.0	71.9	57.1	14.7	28.1
Male, 65 years and over	7,576	100.0	83.0	72.3	10.7	17.0
65 to 74 years	4,948	100.0	84.1	74.8	9.3	15.9
75 years and over	2,628	100.0	81.0	67.7	13.3	19.0
Female, 65 years and over	10,732	100.0	71.9	59.5	12.4	28.1
65 to 74 years	6,486	100.0	75.7	65.3	10.4	24.3
75 years and over	4,246	100.0	66.2	50.6	15.6	33.8
NEGRO						
Both sexes, 65 years and over	1,613	100.0	67.9	50.6	17.3	32.1
65 to 74 years	1,054	100.0	71.9	56.4	15.5	28.1
75 years and over	559	100.0	60.3	39.6	20.6	39.7
Male, 65 years and over	686	100.0	73.9	56.3	17.6	26.1
65 to 74 years	450	100.0	74.8	59.8	15.0	25.2
75 years and over	236	100.0	72.0	49.4	22.6	28.0
Female, 65 years and over	927	100.0	63.4	46.4	17.0	36.6
65 to 74 years	604	100.0	69.7	53.9	15.9	30.3
75 years and over	323	100.0	51.6	32.5	19.2	48.4

[1]Includes "do not know" and "not reported" on voting.
[2]Includes "do not know" and "not reported" on registration.
[3]Includes persons of other races not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 20. REPORTED REGISTRATION AND VOTER PARTICIPATION OF TOTAL VOTING - AGE POPULATION AND POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE AND SEX: NOVEMBER 1974

Age, race, and sex	Total persons (thousands)	Percent distribution				
		Total persons	Reported they were registered			Reported not registered[2]
			Total	Reported voted	Reported did not vote[1]	
PERSONS 18 YEARS AND OVER						
All races[3]	141,299	100.0	62.2	44.7	17.5	37.8
Male	66,393	100.0	62.8	46.2	16.6	37.2
Female	74,906	100.0	61.7	43.4	18.3	38.3
White	125,132	100.0	63.5	46.3	17.2	36.5
Male	59,153	100.0	64.3	47.9	16.4	35.7
Female	65,979	100.0	62.8	44.9	18.0	37.2
Negro	14,175	100.0	54.9	33.8	21.1	45.1
Male	6,323	100.0	52.8	33.4	19.4	47.2
Female	7,852	100.0	56.5	34.1	22.5	43.5
PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER						
All races[3]	20,955	100.0	70.2	51.4	18.8	29.8
Male	8,663	100.0	75.8	58.7	17.1	24.2
Female	12,292	100.0	66.2	46.2	20.0	33.8
White	19,058	100.0	71.2	52.8	18.4	28.8
Male	7,843	100.0	77.2	60.6	16.5	22.8
Female	11,215	100.0	67.0	47.3	19.7	33.0
Negro	1,710	100.0	62.9	38.5	24.4	37.0
Male	725	100.0	64.8	40.6	24.3	35.2
Female	986	100.0	61.6	37.0	24.5	38.3

[1] Includes "do not know" and "not reported" on voting.
[2] Includes "do not know" and "not reported" on registration.
[3] Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

VETERANS

In 1970, approximately 2.2 million men 65 years old and over were veterans, roughly one-fourth of all males 65 and over. About 9 out of 10 of these veterans were in service while this country was at war. The great majority of these served during World War I, with a significant number serving during World War II.

In June 1974, of the 2.2 million veterans receiving compensation from the Veterans Administration for service-connected disabilities, 193,000, or 9 percent, were 65 and over. In addition, 60 percent of the 1 million veterans receiving pensions for nonservice-connected disabilities were 65 and over. Thus, better than one out of every three veterans 65 and over were receiving some form of veterans' disability pension.

The 155,000 hospitalized veterans 65 and over accounted for 15 percent of the 1 million total veterans hospitalized during the fiscal year ending June 1974.

Table 21. PERIOD OF SERVICE OF CIVILIAN MALE VETERANS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE: 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Period of service	All races[1]		White		Negro	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total veterans 65 years and over.....	2,209	100.0	2,047	100.0	146	100.0
War veterans.....	2,011	91.1	1,857	90.7	140	95.8
Korean War.....	6	0.3	5	0.3	1	0.7
Korean War and World War II.....	24	1.1	23	1.1	1	0.4
World War II.....	394	17.8	363	17.7	25	17.4
World War I.....	1,588	71.9	1,466	71.6	113	77.3
Other service veterans.....	198	9.0	190	9.3	6	4.2

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 22. RECIPIENTS OF VETERANS' BENEFITS AS OF JUNE 30, 1974

Type of benefit	Total recipients	Recipients 65 years and over	
		Number	Percent of total
Compensation (for service-connected disability)	2,211,216	193,282	8.7
Pension (for nonservice-connected disability)..	1,030,000	619,927	60.2
Dependent of deceased veteran drawing compensation.....	506,073	225,977	44.7
Dependent of deceased veteran drawing pension..	1,788,443	621,284	34.7
Hospitalization (during Fiscal Year 1974).....	1,043,293	155,400	14.9

Source: Veterans Administration, unpublished data.

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AND OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY

Since 1940, there has been an overall decline in the labor force participation rate of persons 65 years and over, but that decline has not held for both sexes. Among men of this age group, 42 percent were in the labor force in 1940 but only 22 percent in 1974, reflecting the tendency toward earlier retirement in recent years. Women, on the other hand, showed some tendency toward an increase between 1940 and 1970, from 6 percent to 10 percent, but since then they, too, have shown signs of a decrease in labor force participation, down to 8 percent in 1974.

Differences by race in worker level among the elderly have greatly decreased—from 8 percentage points in 1940 to 1 percentage point in 1974. In 1940, about 23 percent of white persons 65 and over were in the labor force compared with 31 percent of persons of Negro and other races. In 1974, around 14 percent of the elderly were in the labor force.

About 2.0 million men and 1.1 million women 65 years old and over were employed in 1970. More than half of these employed men and women (about 58 percent of each) were between the ages of 65 and 69. Around one percent of all men and 27 percent of all women 65 and over had never worked.

Persons 65 and over with few years of school completed tend to have lower rates of participation in the labor force than do persons who have completed more years of schooling. For example, among males 65 and over, in 1974, only about 12 percent of those who had completed less than 5 years of school were in the labor force, compared with 25 percent of high school graduates with no additional education and 48 percent of those with 5 years or more of college. This phenomenon could be the consequence of several factors, such as more highly educated persons being in more personally satisfying and better paying positions which they are reluctant to leave; being in positions in which their skills are in relatively short supply and their employer is reluctant to release them; and being self-employed in greater proportions and thus not subject to arbitrary retirement ages.

Among women, higher rates of participation were also experienced at the higher than at the lower education levels but the rates were lower than for men with corresponding education.

In 1974, there was a marked difference in labor force participation rates for persons in the 10-year period just before the popular retirement age of 65 compared with those at and just beyond this age. Among men, about 79 percent of those 55 to 64 years, and 34 percent of those 65 to 69 years, were in the labor force. About 42 percent of women 55 to 64, compared with 14 percent of those 65 to 69, were in the labor force.

There is some suggestion from the figures that many women 65 and over who have left the labor force by way of retirement may report "keeping house" as their major reason for not being in the labor force, whereas men may tend to report "retired" even if they are doing their own housekeeping.

Annual average figures for 1973 from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that more men 65 and over were in white-collar occupations (42 percent) than in any other of the four major occupation classes. About 27 percent were blue-collar workers, 18 percent were in farm occupations, and 13 percent in service occupations. The proportion of men employed in white-collar occupations was about the same for those 65 to 69 and for those 70 years and over. A similar age pattern was found for service workers. A somewhat higher percentage of men 70 years and over, however, were farm workers than were men in the 65 to 69 group, about 21 percent compared with 16 percent. However, there was a lower percentage of blue-collar workers among those 70 years and over than among those 65 to 69 years.

Women 65 and over were also more likely to be employed in white-collar occupations (52 percent) than in any other group, with service occupations second (about 34 percent). Within the white-collar group, however, men were primarily managers and administrators, whereas women were primarily in clerical positions.

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AND OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY—Continued

There were also variations by age within the major occupation groups for persons 65 years and over and those 55 to 64 years. A considerably larger proportion of men 55 to 64 years old than of those 65 years old and over were in blue-collar occupations, 44 percent compared with 27 percent. Among women, 34 percent of those 65 years and over were in service occupations, but only 25 percent of those 55 to 64 years were in these occupations.

Men 65 and over, more so than those 55 to 64 years, were employed in agricultural industries in 1974. About 20 percent of those 65 and over, compared with 8 percent of those 55 to 64 years, were in agricultural industries.

Within the nonagricultural industries, both men and women in the 65 and over group were more likely to be self-employed than those 55 to 64, about 19 percent compared with 11 percent for men and 14 percent compared with 6 percent for women. Women 65 and over were more likely than those 55 to 64 to be employed as private household workers, 15 percent to 7 percent, but less likely to be government employees, 13 percent to 21 percent.

Among employed men 65 and over in 1970, there was no clearly dominant industry. In the male work force among the 45 to 64 age group, manufacturing was the front-runner, accounting for around 30 percent of the employed.

Among employed women, industries in the field of professional and related services (including school teaching and hospital nursing care) led with about 29 percent, a level which was maintained in both the 65 and over group and the 45 to 64 group.

In 1970, about 1.2 million working men and 700,000 working women 65 years old or over—approximately 58 percent of the work force in this age group—lived in SMSA's having a population of 100,000 or more. Their means of transportation to work is of particular interest during this period of energy conservation awareness. A majority of these men, about 60 percent, drove to work in private automobiles. Although one-third of the women also drove to work, about one-half of them used either public transportation or some means other than as a driver or passenger of a private automobile. (Among all workers 16 and over in these SMSA's, about 74 percent of the males and 54 percent of the females drove to work.) Both men and women 65 and over who lived inside a central city and worked in the central business district relied on public transportation to travel to work much more so than did persons of the same sex who lived inside a central city but worked outside the central business district. (Table 24)

Table 23. LABOR FORCE STATUS OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE AND SEX: 1940 TO 1974

(Numbers in thousands. For years prior to 1960, excludes data for Alaska and Hawaii. All years except 1974 based on sample from decennial censuses; 1974 based on Current Population Survey. 1970 statistics based on 20-percent sample, 1960 statistics on 25-percent sample, 1950 statistics on 3-1/3-percent sample, and 1940 statistics on 5-percent sample)

Year and race	Both sexes, 65 years and over		Male, 65 years and over		Female, 65 years and over	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1974						
Total	2,921	14.1	1,925	22.4	996	8.2
White	2,639	14.0	1,749	22.5	890	8.0
Negro and other races	282	15.1	176	21.7	106	10.0
1970						
Total	3,264	16.2	2,092	24.8	1,171	10.0
White	2,955	16.1	1,909	24.9	1,046	9.8
Negro and other races	309	17.7	183	23.7	126	13.0
1960						
Total	3,150	19.4	2,231	30.5	919	10.3
White	2,892	19.3	2,058	30.6	834	10.1
Negro and other races	258	20.7	173	29.4	85	12.9
1950						
Total	2,882	23.5	2,373	41.4	509	7.8
White	2,640	23.3	2,181	41.2	459	7.6
Negro and other races	242	26.8	192	43.7	50	10.8
1940						
Total	2,117	23.6	1,838	41.8	279	8.1
White	1,920	23.0	1,680	41.2	240	5.6
Negro and other races	197	31.0	158	49.0	39	12.8

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 24. PLACE OF WORK DURING CENSUS WEEK FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER LIVING IN SMSA'S OF 100,000 OR MORE, BY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND SEX: 1970

Means of transportation to work and sex	Total[1]	Living inside central city (cities)				Living outside central city (cities)			
		Total	Working inside business district of central city	Working in SMSA outside central city	Working outside SMSA of residence	Total	Working inside business district of central city	Working in SMSA outside central city	Working outside SMSA of residence
Male	1,192,389	621,285	87,413	65,618	20,589	571,104	29,977	343,543	35,219
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Private automobile, driver	60.4	55.4	38.5	72.8	59.0	65.9	54.0	62.5	67.9
Private automobile, passenger	7.3	7.3	5.8	10.0	9.6	7.3	7.2	6.8	7.9
Public transportation	15.0	22.1	47.0	10.9	22.0	7.3	37.7	2.9	14.2
Other means	17.2	15.2	8.7	6.2	9.5	19.4	1.0	27.8	10.0
Female	708,621	410,638	57,061	38,739	7,486	297,983	14,091	194,183	12,723
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Private automobile, driver	34.4	28.2	16.2	42.4	30.4	43.0	27.1	40.4	49.8
Private automobile, passenger	14.5	12.5	9.5	17.4	13.8	17.2	17.4	16.4	17.7
Public transportation	27.3	36.7	64.3	31.5	39.0	14.4	54.0	9.1	19.1
Other means	23.8	22.6	10.0	8.6	16.7	25.5	1.5	34.1	13.4

[1]Includes other places of work and place of work not reported, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 25. LABOR FORCE STATUS AND YEAR LAST WORKED FOR THE TOTAL AND NEGRO POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX: 1970

Age and sex	Total population	Employed		Unemployed		Percent of total population not in labor force by year last worked			
		Number	Percent of total population	Number	Percent of labor force	Total[1]	1960 to 1970	1959 or earlier	Never worked
ALL RACES									
Male, 65 years and over	8,433,330	2,004,453	23.8	101,210	4.8	75.0	41.8	27.5	1.4
65 to 69 years	3,116,348	1,167,073	37.5	57,267	4.7	60.7	47.2	9.4	0.9
70 to 74 years	2,324,327	497,882	21.4	23,303	4.5	77.5	51.4	20.7	1.3
75 years and over	2,992,655	339,498	11.3	20,640	5.7	87.9	28.6	51.5	1.9
Female, 65 years and over	11,658,495	1,091,656	9.4	78,901	6.7	90.0	18.7	38.7	26.7
65 to 69 years	3,897,364	635,288	16.3	35,921	5.4	82.8	26.7	30.5	21.0
70 to 74 years	3,115,737	263,884	8.5	19,427	6.9	90.9	21.2	38.8	25.8
75 years and over	4,645,394	192,484	4.1	23,553	10.9	95.3	10.4	45.6	32.1
NEGRO									
Male, 65 years and over	690,952	153,442	22.2	9,104	5.6	76.5	34.7	37.6	2.0
65 to 69 years	278,836	94,051	33.7	5,094	5.1	64.4	38.9	17.6	1.6
70 to 74 years	189,752	34,542	18.2	2,260	6.1	80.6	40.6	30.4	1.8
75 years and over	222,364	24,849	11.2	1,750	6.6	88.0	24.4	50.2	2.6
Female, 65 years and over	891,050	106,584	12.0	6,676	5.9	87.3	21.6	40.0	16.8
65 to 69 years	356,826	64,639	18.1	3,394	5.0	80.9	28.2	30.2	14.9
70 to 74 years	230,391	24,099	10.5	1,661	6.4	88.8	23.1	40.9	16.7
75 years and over	303,833	17,846	5.9	1,621	8.3	93.6	12.8	50.9	19.0

[1]Includes year last worked not reported.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 26. LABOR FORCE STATUS OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND PERSONS 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED AND SEX: MARCH 1972

(Resident population)

Years of school completed	Male				Female			
	65 years and over		55 to 64 years		65 years and over		55 to 64 years	
	In labor force	Not in labor force	In labor force	Not in labor force	In labor force	Not in labor force	In labor force	Not in labor force
Total.....thousands..	2,03[illegible]	6,233	7,187	1,659	1,097	10,454	4,260	5,724
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No school years completed.....	1.8	3.6	1.1	3.3	0.6	3.2	0.4	1.6
Elementary: 1 to 4 years.....	7.4	12.4	3.7	8.6	5.4	8.0	2.6	5.0
5 to 7 years.....	13.1	18.9	11.0	18.4	12.5	16.8	8.5	12.5
8 years.....	24.6	26.1	17.3	20.1	21.4	24.6	14.1	18.7
High school: 1 to 3 years.....	14.2	13.1	17.6	19.7	13.6	14.6	19.0	20.4
4 years.....	18.6	14.5	28.1	18.7	24.5	19.9	35.7	29.0
College: 1 to 3 years.....	7.9	4.8	9.3	5.2	9.5	7.4	9.6	7.9
4 years.....	5.8	4.2	6.3	3.5	7.0	4.0	6.5	3.7
5 years or more.....	6.5	2.6	5.5	2.5	5.5	1.5	3.7	1.2
Median school years completed....	9.6	8.6	11.9	9.0	11.2	8.9	12.2	10.8

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 27. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND PERSONS 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, SEX, AND RACE: MARCH 1974

Years of school completed and race	Male		Female	
	65 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	55 to 64 years
ALL RACES				
Elementary: 0 to 4 years	12.4	57.1	4.1	26.1
5 to 7 years	17.1	74.0	6.0	34.5
8 years	18.7	73.3	6.9	34.4
High school: 1 to 3 years	23.2	78.1	10.2	37.6
4 years	25.5	83.1	9.8	46.3
College: 1 to 3 years	30.8	84.6	11.5	50.0
4 years	40.8	82.6	9.7	54.1
5 years or more	48.0	93.2	14.7	64.9
WHITE				
Elementary: 0 to 8 years	16.6	71.2	5.4	31.8
High school: 1 to 3 years	22.5	77.9	10.3	37.2
4 years	25.1	82.1	9.9	45.5
College: 1 year or more	36.8	86.1	11.7	52.9
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES				
Elementary: 0 to 8 years	17.5	67.6	10.0	39.5
High school: 1 to 3 years	35.4	79.8	8.9	41.7
4 years	38.0	81.6	9.6	62.9
College: 1 year or more	32.9	83.2	2.1	65.3

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 28. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY SEX AND RACE: MARCH 1974

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex, age, and race	Civilian labor force			Not in labor force by major reason			
	Total	Percent of population	Percent unemployed	Total	Keeping house	Unable to work	Other reasons[1]
ALL RACES							
Male, 65 years and over	1,881	22.1	3.0	6,645	119	543	5,983
65 to 69 years	1,136	33.8	3.4	2,221	30	182	2,009
70 years and over	746	14.4	2.3	4,425	89	361	3,974
Male, 55 to 64 years	7,106	78.5	2.7	1,942	26	561	1,349
Female, 65 years and over	991	8.2	3.9	11,083	9,311	673	1,088
65 to 69 years	604	14.2	4.7	3,635	3,198	108	324
70 years and over	387	4.9	2.7	7,447	6,113	565	764
Female, 55 to 64 years	4,271	42.0	3.3	5,897	5,356	210	325
WHITE							
Male, 65 years and over	1,707	22.1	2.9	6,020	111	439	5,470
Male, 55 to 64 years	6,496	79.1	2.7	1,713	20	472	1,214
Female, 65 years and over	892	8.1	4.3	10,134	8,580	572	973
Female, 55 to 64 years	3,814	41.5	3.3	5,372	4,908	162	297
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES							
Male, 65 years and over	174	21.8	3.5	625	9	104	513
Male, 55 to 64 years	610	72.6	2.4	230	6	89	134
Female, 65 years and over	99	9.5	1.0	948	731	101	115
Female, 55 to 64 years	457	46.5	3.5	525	448	47	28

[1]Includes "retired", not available separately, but a major reason for males of this age group being out of labor force.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 29. MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND PERSONS 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY SEX: 1973

Major occupation group	Male				Female			
	65 years and over			55 to 64 years	65 years and over			55 to 64 years
	Total	65 to 69 years	70 years and over		Total	65 to 69 years	70 years and over	
Total.....thousands..	1,851	1,059	792	6,833	1,024	619	405	4,062
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers.....	41.8	41.6	41.9	39.8	51.6	53.8	48.1	55.4
Professional, tech.,and kind. wkrs...	11.1	11.3	10.9	10.2	11.9	12.0	11.9	13.0
Managers and administrators.....	15.6	15.6	15.7	16.6	8.5	7.6	9.9	7.6
Sales workers.....	9.1	9.3	8.8	6.6	11.1	11.1	11.1	8.3
Clerical and kindred workers.....	5.9	5.6	6.6	6.5	19.9	22.9	15.3	26.5
Blue-collar workers.....	27.0	29.2	24.0	43.7	10.4	11.3	8.9	17.6
Service workers.....	13.0	13.1	12.8	8.8	34.1	31.3	38.3	24.9
Farm workers.....	18.3	16.0	21.3	7.7	3.9	3.6	4.4	2.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 30. EMPLOYED PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY CLASS OF WORKER AND SEX: MARCH 1974

(Noninstitutional population)

Class of worker	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	65 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	55 to 64 years
Total employed.....thousands..	2,778	11,044	1,826	6,914	952	4,127
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonagricultural industries[1].....	86.0	94.2	80.4	92.0	96.7	97.9
Wage and salary workers:						
Private household workers.....	6.2	2.7	1.5	0.3	15.3	6.7
Government.....	11.4	17.3	10.8	15.0	12.6	21.0
Other.....	49.7	64.3	48.2	65.5	52.6	62.2
Self-employed.....	17.5	9.2	19.4	11.2	13.9	6.0
Agricultural industries[2].....	14.0	5.8	19.6	8.0	3.3	2.1
Self-employed.....	11.4	3.9	16.3	5.8	2.0	0.6

[1] Includes unpaid family workers, not shown separately.
[2] Includes wage and salary workers and unpaid family workers, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 31. INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND 45 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY SEX: 1970

Industry group	Male		Female	
	65 years and over	45 to 64 years	65 years and over	45 to 64 years
Employed, total.....thousands..	2,004	16,899	1,092	10,117
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.....	13.5	6.3	1.7	1.2
Construction.....	7.8	9.5	1.0	0.9
Manufacturing.....	15.2	30.3	11.2	20.2
Transportation, communications, and other public utilities.....	5.0	9.2	1.5	2.8
Wholesale trade.....	4.9	5.0	2.1	2.4
Retail trade.....	16.3	11.6	21.0	19.8
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	6.6	4.0	4.9	5.4
Other personal services, including private household.....	3.9	1.6	18.5	8.9
Professional and related services.....	13.3	9.3	28.8	29.1
Public administration.....	5.0	7.3	3.6	5.0
All other.....	8.4	5.9	5.8	4.3

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

INCOME AND EARNINGS

Men 65 years and over with an income had a 1973 median income of $4,100 compared with about $9,600 for men 55 to 64 years, a contrast reflecting the higher proportion of retirees within the older group. Similarly, women 65 and over had a lower median income than women 55 to 64 years, and in each of these age groups the median income for women was considerably lower than for men of the same ages. The median income of women 65 and over was $2,100; it was $3,400 for women 55 to 64 years.

Single, widowed, or divorced persons 62 years old or older who lived in families had a lower median income than those who did not, about $2,100 compared with $2,800. Those who were more capable of self-maintenance tended to live apart from relatives.

Families with heads 55 to 64 years old had a 1973 median income approximately double that of families with heads 65 years old or over, about $13,400 compared with $6,500. Although families with a female head 55 to 64 also had income in excess of those with a head 65 and over, the difference was not as pronounced, about $7,900 compared with $6,100.

Families headed by a woman 65 or over had a median income about the same (around $6,000) as those headed by a man of that age in which the wife was not in the paid labor force. This was not the case, however, in families with a head 55 to 64 years. Among these families, those headed by a woman had a median income of about $7,900 while those headed by a man whose wife was not in the paid labor force had an appreciably higher median income of about $12,000.

The median family income of families containing men 65 years old and over is considerably lower ($6,600) than for families with men 62 to 64 years ($11,100) or 55 to 61 ($14,200). Within the families which include a man 65 years old or over, the median family income is about twice as high if the man is related to the head as it is if he is the head. Presumably this is a reflection of the higher, active labor force income of a generally younger family head in the first case and the lower, largely retirement income of the 65 and over head in the second case. This kind of difference does not occur in families having men 55 to 61 and 62 to 64 years old, in which the men are normally still in the labor force.

Of special interest is the fact that among families with a head 65 years old or over those headed by a female had a 1969 median income somewhat higher than that for husband-wife families. (Table 36)

Unrelated individuals 65 years old and over had a 1969 median income of about $1,800. These persons live alone or with persons to whom they are not related. About 3 out of 4 (75 percent) of these persons had no income from earnings but were primarily dependent on Social Security income, either exclusively or in combination with sources of income other than earnings. Around 5 percent had only earnings with no other source of income.

NOTE: The income shown in the two sections on income ("Income and Earnings" and "Low-income Persons and Families") relates to income for the previous calendar year, while the statistics on the number and characteristics of persons and families relate to those persons or families as of the sample survey or census date. Thus, for a Current Population Survey table showing 1973 income, the income was accumulated in 1973 but the survey date was March, 1974. Similarly, 1970 census income data relate to income received in 1969 although the official census date was April, 1970.

Table 32. TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1973 OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX

(Persons as of March, 1974; see Note, page 31)

Income and sex	All races[1]		White		Negro	
	65 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	55 to 64 years
MALE						
Number of persons.....thousands..	8,528	9,051	7,727	8,212	716	750
Number of persons with income...thousands..	8,463	8,960	7,682	8,149	703	729
Income Recipients						
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $2,499 or loss.....	23.9	9.5	20.9	8.1	57.2	25.5
$2,500 to $3,999.....	24.8	7.6	25.1	7.2	20.2	12.3
$4,000 to $5,999.....	21.6	11.3	22.4	10.5	14.2	19.7
$6,000 to $9,999.....	16.2	24.1	17.2	24.1	5.4	24.3
$10,000 and over.....	13.5	47.2	14.5	50.0	3.0	18.1
Median income.....dollars..	4,106	9,552	4,317	9,989	2,281	5,294
FEMALE						
Number of persons.....thousands..	12,074	10,164	11,027	9,185	957	898
Number of persons with income...thousands..	10,546	7,119	9,598	6,305	887	745
Income Recipients						
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $1,499 or loss.....	31.1	25.6	29.3	24.3	49.2	37.5
$1,500 to $2,499.....	29.8	15.2	29.5	14.7	32.4	20.0
$2,500 to $3,999.....	21.3	14.9	22.0	14.6	13.1	16.0
$4,000 to $9,999.....	15.0	34.7	15.9	36.3	5.2	22.2
$10,000 and over.....	2.9	9.7	3.2	10.3	0.1	4.1
Median income.....dollars..	2,119	3,431	2,192	3,641	1,519	2,109

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 33. TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1973 OF PERSONS 62 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, AND MARITAL AND FAMILY STATUS

(Couples and persons 62 years old and over as of March 1974; see Note, page 31)

Marital status, family status, and age	Total (thousands)	Number with income (thousands)	Total money income of income recipients					
			Total	$1 to $1,499 or loss	$1,500 to $2,499	$2,500 to $6,999	$7,000 and over	Median income (dollars)
MARRIED COUPLES								
Total, 62 years and over[1]	8,915	8,883	100.0	1.6	5.1	45.5	47.6	6,747
62 to 64 years	2,214	2,211	100.0	1.6	2.9	25.0	70.6	10,000
65 to 72 years	4,045	4,031	100.0	1.6	5.1	46.4	46.9	6,691
73 years and over	2,656	2,640	100.0	1.8	7.2	61.4	29.7	5,084
SINGLE, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED PERSONS								
Total, 62 years and over	11,209	10,949	100.0	19.6	28.7	40.9	10.9	2,576
In families	3,934	3,742	100.0	30.2	29.7	31.3	9.0	2,138
Male	755	731	100.0	18.7	21.4	41.3	18.6	2,936
62 to 64 years	216	203	100.0	15.7	9.0	41.4	33.8	4,912
65 to 72 years	230	225	100.0	15.8	23.8	39.9	20.6	3,033
73 years and over	310	302	100.0	22.9	28.0	42.1	7.0	2,465
Female	3,179	3,012	100.0	32.9	31.7	28.8	6.6	1,989
62 to 64 years	452	426	100.0	25.7	21.4	35.8	17.1	2,727
65 to 72 years	1,071	1,003	100.0	26.4	32.0	33.8	7.7	2,208
73 years and over	1,655	1,583	100.0	39.0	34.2	23.7	3.0	1,795
Not in families	7,275	7,206	100.0	14.1	28.3	45.8	11.9	2,813
Male	1,744	1,736	100.0	11.6	24.1	45.5	18.8	3,298
62 to 64 years	302	302	100.0	8.5	20.7	35.4	35.4	4,472
65 to 72 years	645	643	100.0	11.1	20.6	47.9	20.5	3,542
73 years and over	797	791	100.0	13.0	28.4	47.6	11.1	2,882
Female	5,531	5,470	100.0	14.8	29.5	45.9	9.8	2,715
62 to 64 years	681	662	100.0	13.4	21.9	44.2	20.5	3,588
65 to 72 years	2,129	2,118	100.0	13.7	25.2	49.5	11.7	2,915
73 years and over	2,721	2,691	100.0	16.2	34.8	43.6	5.5	2,471

[1] Income of couples with at least one member 62 years old or over; if both members 62 and over, age category determined by age of head.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 34. TOTAL INCOME IN 1973 FOR FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS, BY TYPE OF FAMILY AND AGE OF HEAD OR UNRELATED INDIVIDUAL 55 YEARS OLD AND OVER

(Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1974; see Note, page 31)

Total money income and age	Total	Families					Unrelated individuals	
		Male head				Female head	Male	Female
		Married, wife present			Other marital status			
		Total	Wife in paid labor force	Wife not in paid labor force				
65 years and over...thousands..	6,750	6,450	957	5,493	300	1,136	1,442	4,850
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $2,500	6.3	6.3	2.5	6.9	9.3	11.3	37.4	46.0
$2,500 to $3,999	15.9	16.1	6.3	6.3	17.7	18.3	26.4	29.4
$4,000 to $5,999	23.6	23.7	14.2	25.5	18.8	19.6	17.8	13.2
$6,000 to $9,999	25.7	25.9	30.5	25.0	19.8	22.4	9.4	7.7
$10,000 and over	28.6	28.1	46.3	25.0	38.6	28.6	8.9	3.6
Median income...dollars..	6,458	6,435	9,417	6,003	7,059	6,149	3,087	2,642
55 to 64 years...thousands..	7,737	7,471	2,897	4,574	266	902	899	1,927
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $2,500	3.2	3.0	0.5	4.6	7.6	9.7	23.1	33.1
$2,500 to $5,999	10.6	10.4	5.5	13.6	18.9	26.9	31.5	32.8
$6,000 to $9,999	18.2	18.2	15.5	19.9	17.8	26.5	20.9	21.4
$10,000 to $14,999	26.3	26.3	24.6	27.4	25.0	20.1	12.8	9.5
$15,000 and over	41.7	42.1	53.9	34.6	30.8	16.8	11.7	3.2
Median income...dollars..	13,384	13,448	16,064	12,034	11,839	7,870	5,550	4,147

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 35. TOTAL FAMILY INCOME IN 1973 FOR FAMILY MEMBERS, BY AGE, SEX, AND RELATIONSHIP TO FAMILY HEAD

Family members as of March, 1974; see Note, page 31

Relationship to family head, age, and sex	Number (thousands)	Percent distribution						Median income (dollars)
		Total	Under $2,500	$2,500 to $4,999	$5,000 to $9,999	$10,000 to $14,999	$15,000 to $24,999	$25,000 and over	
MALE									
65 years and over, total	7,088	100.0	6.2	27.6	35.9	14.1	10.8	5.2	6,603
Head of family	6,750	100.0	6.3	28.6	36.6	14.0	9.9	4.7	6,457
Relative of head	337	100.0	3.9	9.7	27.4	16.5	27.6	14.9	13,037
62 to 64 years, total	2,154	100.0	3.5	12.5	27.7	26.1	19.8	10.3	11,083
Head of family	2,009	100.0	3.7	12.0	27.8	26.7	20.5	9.4	11,112
Relative of head	145	100.0	3.0	18.2	28.0	17.6	10.4	24.2	10,524
55 to 61 years, total	5,998	100.0	3.2	5.9	19.0	26.0	31.1	14.8	14,197
Head of family	5,728	100.0	2.9	5.8	19.1	26.2	31.1	14.8	14,206
Relative of head	270	100.0	9.1	8.1	16.4	21.1	31.1	14.1	13,986
FEMALE									
65 years and over, total	7,224	100.0	6.0	26.8	33.0	16.3	12.4	5.5	6,961
Head of family	1,136	100.0	11.3	29.0	31.3	16.8	9.6	2.2	6,148
Wife of head	4,422	100.0	5.7	31.7	36.1	13.5	8.5	4.4	6,117
Other relative of head	1,666	100.0	3.4	12.1	25.7	23.2	24.7	10.8	11,702
62 to 64 years, total	2,185	100.0	6.4	17.7	33.0	21.3	15.3	6.6	8,673
Head of family	246	100.0	9.3	23.5	33.0	17.5	12.9	3.7	7,356
Wife of head	1,714	100.0	6.1	18.0	33.2	21.5	14.7	6.5	8,597
Other relative of head	225	100.0	5.4	8.5	31.3	23.0	22.3	9.4	11,247
55 to 61 years, total	6,052	100.0	4.4	9.9	26.5	23.1	24.6	11.4	11,863
Head of family	857	100.0	9.8	15.3	37.1	21.0	15.2	1.6	8,047
Wife of head	4,990	100.0	3.6	9.4	24.8	23.3	26.2	12.7	12,534
Other relative of head	405	100.0	4.5	8.6	31.1	23.7	20.6	11.7	11,466

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 36. MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME IN 1969 OF FAMILIES WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY TYPE OF FAMILY, NUMBER OF EARNERS, AND RACE OF HEAD

Families as of April, 1970; see Note, page 31

Type of family and number of earners	All families	Median income by race of head (dollars)		
		All races	White	Negro
All families[1] ..... thousands	7,027	4,981	5,187	3,327
Percent	100.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
No earner	43.2	3,235	3,341	1,818
1 earner	37.4	6,160	6,439	3,637
2 or more earners	19.4	10,157	10,709	6,712
Husband-wife families ..... thousands	5,671	4,919	5,058	3,388
Percent	100.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
No earner	45.6	3,326	3,466	2,033
1 earner	36.1	6,180	6,409	3,672
2 or more earners	18.3	10,107	10,573	6,751
Families with female head ..... thousands	1,013	5,179	5,687	3,042
Percent	100.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
No earner	34.1	2,542	2,816	1,444
1 earner	43.7	6,021	6,483	3,463
2 or more earners	22.2	10,093	10,984	6,541

X Not applicable.

[1] Includes families headed by a male, with no wife present, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 37. INCOME IN 1969 OF UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY TYPE OF INCOME AND RACE

(Unrelated individuals as of April, 1970; see Note, page 31)

Type of income	All races[1]	White	Negro	Median income (dollars)		
				All races[1]	White	Negro
Total, 65 years and over.....thousands..	5,676	5,138	496	$1,816	$1,872	$1,328
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	(X)	(X)	(X)
With earnings only.....	4.8	4.5	7.2	4,177	4,402	2,832
With earnings and other income.....	16.5	16.6	15.0	3,308	3,466	1,952
With other income only.....	74.8	75.2	70.8	1,672	1,715	1,270
Social Security income only.....	26.3	26.1	28.9	1,122	1,136	970
Public assistance income only.....	3.6	2.8	12.0	1,128	1,196	930
All other income only.....	4.0	4.1	3.2	2,176	2,327	1,329
With Social Security and public assistance income.....	6.2	5.3	15.2	1,585	1,615	1,474
With Social Security and all other income....	33.0	35.4	9.2	2,529	2,547	1,941
With public assistance and all other income..	0.5	0.5	0.9	1,803	1,830	1,665
With all 3 types of other income.....	1.1	1.0	1.5	2,473	2,535	2,061
With no income.....	4.0	3.6	7.1	(X)	(X)	(X)

X Not applicable.
[1]Includes other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

LOW-INCOME STATUS OF PERSONS AND FAMILIES

Approximately one in every six persons 65 years old or over (16 percent) was below the low-income level in 1973. Smaller percentages of persons 55 to 64 than of those 65 and over were below the low-income level. Women 65 and over were more likely than men to be below this level, about 19 percent compared with 12 percent. Similarly, older persons living in nonmetropolitan areas were more likely than metropolitan residents to be below the low-income level, 23 percent versus 13 percent.

Among Negroes, three out of every eight persons 65 and over (37 percent) were below the low-income level. Half of all Negroes 65 and over living in nonmetropolitan areas and a fourth of all Negroes in metropolitan areas were below the low-income level.

Some 829,000 families with the head 65 or over, or 11 percent of all families with a head of this age, were below the low-income level in 1973. Families headed by a woman in this age group were more likely to be below the low-income level than those headed by a man of similar age. About 9 percent of these families with a male head, but 17 percent with a female head, were in this category. Interestingly, families headed by relatively young women are below the low-income level in greater proportions than are those headed by women 65 years or over. About 32 percent of all families headed by a woman were low-income families compared with the 17 percent for families headed by a woman 65 or over. The relationship was similar for white and Negro women. Among white families headed by a woman, about 10 percent of those with a head 65 or over were below the low-income level and about 25 percent of all families; among Negro families headed by a woman, about 44 percent of those headed by a woman 65 or over, compared with 53 percent of all Negro families with a female head, were below the low-income level.

In about every category of families and unrelated individuals, Negroes were more likely—and sometimes considerably so—to be below the low-income level than the total population.

As might be expected, the higher the level of education of the family head 65 and over, the smaller the percentage of such families below the low-income level. In families headed by a person 65 and over, about 19 percent of families in which the head had less than an eighth grade education were below the low-income level, 9 percent of those in which the head had an eighth grade education, and 3 percent of those in which the head was a college graduate.

Table 38. LOW-INCOME STATUS OF PERSONS IN THE TOTAL POPULATION AND AMONG PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: 1966 TO 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of following year; see Note, page 31. Numbers exclude unrelated individuals under 14 years old, inmates of institutions and members of Armed Forces living in barracks)

Year	All persons			Persons 65 years and over		
	Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1972	206,004	24,460	11.9	20,117	3,738	18.6
1971	204,554	25,559	12.5	19,827	4,273	21.6
1970	202,189	25,522	12.6	19,254	4,709	24.5
1969	199,848	24,281	12.1	18,899	4,787	25.3
1968	197,618	25,377	12.8	18,549	4,632	25.0
1967	195,677	27,775	14.2	18,245	5,388	29.5
1966	193,390	28,510	14.7	17,931	5,114	28.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 39. LOW-INCOME STATUS IN 1973 OF PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, AND 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY METROPOLITAN-NONMETROPOLITAN RESIDENCE AND BY RACE AND SEX

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March, 1974; see Note, page 31)

Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence, age, and sex	All races[1]			White			Negro		
	Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level	
		Number	Percent of total		Number	Percent of total		Number	Percent of total
BOTH SEXES									
Total, 65 years and over	20,602	3,354	16.3	18,754	2,698	14.4	1,672	620	37.1
Metropolitan areas	13,099	1,663	12.7	11,850	1,314	11.1	1,101	320	29.1
Inside central cities	6,660	974	14.6	5,721	711	12.4	850	241	28.4
Outside central cities	6,440	689	10.7	6,129	603	9.8	251	79	31.5
Nonmetropolitan areas	7,503	1,691	22.5	6,904	1,384	20.0	571	300	52.5
Total, 55 to 64 years	19,215	1,841	9.6	17,397	1,360	7.8	1,649	451	27.3
Metropolitan areas	12,811	990	7.7	11,482	705	6.1	1,197	268	22.4
Inside central cities	5,857	614	10.5	4,792	371	7.7	967	228	23.6
Outside central cities	6,955	376	5.4	6,691	334	5.0	230	41	17.8
Nonmetropolitan areas	6,403	851	13.3	5,915	656	11.1	451	184	40.8
MALE									
65 years and over	8,528	1,056	12.4	7,727	801	10.4	716	232	32.4
55 to 64 years	9,050	671	7.4	8,212	487	5.9	750	170	22.7
FEMALE									
65 years and over	12,074	2,298	19.0	11,027	1,896	17.2	957	388	40.5
55 to 64 years	10,165	1,170	11.5	9,185	874	9.5	898	281	31.3

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 40. LOW-INCOME STATUS IN 1973 OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS, BY SEX AND RACE OF FAMILY HEAD OR UNRELATED INDIVIDUAL 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER AND 55 TO 64 YEARS OLD

(Numbers in thousands. Families and unrelated individuals as of March, 1974; see Note, page 31)

Age and sex of head or unrelated individual	All races[1]			White			Negro		
	Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level		Total	Below low-income level	
		Number	Percent of total		Number	Percent of total		Number	Percent of total
All families	55,053	4,828	8.8	48,919	3,219	6.6	5,440	1,527	28.1
Head 65 years and over	7,885	829	10.5	7,120	595	8.4	698	219	31.4
Head 55 to 64 years	8,639	593	6.9	7,843	413	5.3	707	171	24.2
Families with male head	48,249	2,635	5.5	4[illegible]36	2,028	4.6	3,591	553	15.4
Head 65 years and over	6,750	638	9.4	6,216	503	8.1	473	120	25.4
Head 55 to 64 years	7,737	442	5.7	7,125	326	4.6	539	110	20.4
Families with female head	6,804	2,193	32.2	4,853	1,190	24.5	1,849	974	52.7
Head 65 years and over	1,136	191	16.8	904	92	10.2	225	99	43.9
Head 55 to 64 years	902	150	16.7	718	88	12.2	168	61	36.3
All unrelated individuals	18,260	4,669	25.6	15,761	3,725	23.6	2,183	828	37.9
65 years and over	6,292	2,010	31.9	5,761	1,706	29.6	489	289	59.2
55 to 64 years	2,826	745	26.4	2,402	555	23.1	397	176	44.4
Male unrelated individuals	7,541	1,495	19.8	6,223	1,091	17.5	1,126	328	29.1
65 years and over	1,442	391	27.1	1,253	287	22.9	170	97	56.8
55 to 64 years	899	198	22.0	716	136	19.0	169	56	32.8
Female unrelated individuals	10,719	3,174	29.6	9,539	2,634	27.6	1,057	500	47.3
65 years and over	4,850	1,619	33.4	4,508	1,419	31.5	319	193	60.5
55 to 64 years	1,927	547	28.4	1,686	420	24.9	227	121	53.1

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 41. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF HEAD FOR FAMILIES BELOW THE LOW-INCOME LEVEL IN 1973 WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX AND RACE OF HEAD

(Numbers in thousands. Families as of March, 1974; see Note, page 31)

Years of school completed and race of head	All families		Families with male head		Families with female head	
	Total	Percent below low-income level	Total	Percent below low-income level	Total	Percent below low-income level
ALL RACES[1]						
Head 65 years old and over	7,885	10.5	6,749	9.5	1,136	16.8
Elementary: 0 to 7 years	2,387	19.4	1,913	18.0	474	25.3
8 years	1,906	8.8	1,671	8.6	235	10.2
High school: 1 to 3 years	1,119	7.0	963	5.7	156	14.7
4 years	1,292	5.5	1,137	4.7	155	11.0
College: 1 to 3 years	502	5.4	439	4.8	63	(B)
4 years or more	680	3.2	627	3.3	53	(B)
Median school years completed	8.8	7.1	7.9	7.4	8.4	6.4
WHITE						
Head 65 years old and over	7,120	8.4	6,216	8.1	904	10.2
Elementary: 0 to 7 years	1,876	14.6	1,558	14.7	318	13.8
8 years	1,824	8.6	1,612	8.7	212	7.5
High school: 1 to 3 years	1,033	5.8	908	5.2	125	10.4
4 years	1,249	5.0	1,106	4.4	143	9.8
College: 1 to 3 years	485	4.9	427	4.9	58	(B)
4 years or more	654	3.2	607	3.3	47	(B)
Median school years completed	8.9	8.2	8.0	7.2	8.6	8.1
NEGRO						
Head 65 years old and over	698	31.4	473	25.4	225	44.0
Elementary: 0 to 7 years	474	37.6	323	31.6	151	50.3
8 years	78	15.4	55	(B)	23	(B)
High school: 1 to 3 years	74	(B)	45	(B)	10	(B)
4 years	36	(B)	24	(B)	3	(B)
College: 1 to 3 years	18	(B)	13	(B)	3	(B)
4 years or more	19	(B)	13	(B)	-	(B)
Median school years completed	5.9	4.9	5.9	4.7	6.0	5.2

- Represents zero.
B Base less than 75,000.
[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 42. PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER BELOW THE LOW-INCOME LEVEL IN 1969, BY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND BY RACE AND SEX

(Excludes inmates of institutions; based on 5-percent sample. Persons as of April, 1970; see Note, page 31)

Living arrangements	Both sexes			Male			Female		
	All races[1]	White	Negro	All races[1]	White	Negro	All races[1]	White	Negro
Total persons, 65 years and over.....thousands..	19,113	17,429	1,531	8,117	7,368	669	10,996	10,060	862
Below low-income level.....thousands..	5,221	4,415	758	1,825	1,493	308	3,396	2,921	450
Percent below low-income level.....	27.3	25.3	49.5	22.5	20.3	46.0	30.9	29.0	52.2
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Below low-income level.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In families	44.9	43.4	53.1	64.1	64.9	61.3	34.5	32.4	47.5
Living with:									
Spouse only.....	28.7	30.1	21.0	46.7	50.4	30.4	19.0	19.7	14.5
Spouse and other relative(s).....	5.6	4.5	12.1	10.7	8.7	20.3	2.9	2.3	6.5
Other relatives only.....	10.6	8.9	20.1	6.7	5.8	10.6	12.7	10.4	26.5
Unrelated individuals.....	55.1	56.6	46.9	35.9	35.1	38.7	65.5	67.6	52.5
Living with nonrelative(s).....	7.2	6.7	9.9	7.3	6.4	11.1	7.1	6.8	9.1
Living alone.....	47.9	49.9	37.0	28.5	28.7	27.6	58.3	60.8	43.4

[1]Includes other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

HOUSING

Household heads 65 and over hold their own in home ownership compared with the total population. In 1970, 63 percent of all households, and 68 percent of those with a head 65 and over, were owner occupied.

An overwhelming proportion (around 70 percent) of the owner-occupied units with a head of household 65 and over had been built prior to 1950 with more than half having been built before 1940. Similarly, a substantial portion of these units had been occupied by the current owners for more than 20 years. Greater percentages of heads 75 and over than of those 65 to 74 in the corresponding type of household were living in structures built before 1940 and had moved into their units before 1950.

Renter-occupied households headed by persons 65 years old or over were more likely to contain a person living alone than to contain two or more persons. About 2.3 million households headed by a renter 65 or over were occupied by the head only, compared with about 1.7 million which were occupied by at least one other person, usually the spouse.

Somewhat greater percentages of the two-or-more person households were in single-unit structures than was true of one-person households. Conversely, one-person households were more likely than larger households to be located in structures having 20 or more units.

Regardless of household composition, more than half of these renters lived in structures built prior to 1940; however, they were about as likely to have moved into their unit during the preceding 5 years as to have moved there earlier. The one-person households were more likely to consist of three rooms and the other households of four rooms than of any other size unit.

Households in which the head and wife were both present were more likely than other households to consist of exactly two persons. In households of two or more persons headed by a 65 to 74 year-old, about 78 percent of the husband-wife households contained two persons compared with about 71 percent of households with a female head. In similar households with the head 75 years old or older, about 85 percent of the husband-wife households contained two persons, compared with 67 percent of households headed by a male with no wife present and 76 percent of those headed by a female.

Table 43. HOUSEHOLDS BY TENURE FOR TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSEHOLDS WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY REGION: 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Tenure	United States	Northeast	North Central	South	West
ALL HOUSEHOLDS					
Total	63,573	15,515	17,568	19,307	11,184
Owner-occupied	40,268	9,027	12,030	12,569	6,641
Percent	63.3	58.2	68.5	65.1	59.4
Renter-occupied	23,305	6,488	5,538	6,738	4,543
Percent	36.7	41.8	31.5	34.9	40.6
HOUSEHOLDS WITH HEAD 65 YEARS AND OVER					
Total	12,242	3,074	3,513	3,728	1,927
Owner-occupied	8,339	1,783	2,594	2,701	1,261
Percent	68.1	58.0	73.8	72.5	65.4
Renter-occupied	3,903	1,291	919	1,027	666
Percent	31.9	42.0	26.2	27.5	34.6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 44. HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION FOR OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS: 1970

Subject	Head, 65 to 74 years					Head, 75 years and over				
	Two-or-more-person households			One-person households		Two-or-more-person households			One-person households	
	Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	Other male head	Female head	Male	Female	Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	Other male head	Female head	Male	Female
All owner-occupied units.....thousands..	3,163	206	486	321	1,196	1,282	162	372	298	867
Units in structure.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 unit.....	88.0	87.6	86.7	81.1	81.1	86.9	87.6	86.6	82.5	81.0
2 units or more.....	8.4	10.0	11.4	10.4	13.8	10.0	10.9	12.4	11.5	14.9
Mobile home or trailer.....	3.7	2.4	1.9	8.5	5.1	3.0	1.5	1.1	5.9	4.1
Year structure built.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1965 to March 1970.....	7.2	4.2	3.4	5.4	4.8	4.4	2.4	2.1	3.3	2.8
1960 to 1964.....	8.1	5.7	4.8	6.5	6.1	6.1	3.6	3.1	4.6	4.2
1950 to 1959.....	20.1	14.5	14.2	16.8	16.5	17.2	11.4	10.6	14.1	12.7
1940 to 1949.....	14.6	12.9	13.6	13.9	14.1	12.8	10.6	10.6	12.0	11.9
1939 or earlier.....	49.9	62.7	64.0	57.4	58.6	59.6	71.9	73.5	66.0	68.4
Year moved into unit.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1965 to March 1970.....	20.0	16.3	13.8	20.5	15.7	14.2	10.5	9.1	13.7	10.9
1960 to 1964.....	14.2	12.1	11.6	13.3	13.0	12.6	9.5	8.3	10.8	10.1
1950 to 1959.....	25.2	22.5	22.3	21.2	22.8	23.4	19.0	17.8	20.1	20.6
1949 or earlier.....	40.5	49.1	52.4	45.0	48.4	49.8	61.0	64.8	55.4	58.5
Rooms.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
3 rooms or less.....	5.4	5.2	4.3	21.2	11.7	6.1	4.8	4.1	17.9	15.6
4 rooms.....	20.6	16.3	16.7	24.8	26.1	21.8	15.2	15.3	23.6	24.8
5 rooms.....	31.2	25.3	27.4	24.5	29.2	30.5	24.4	25.5	25.6	28.1
6 rooms.....	25.0	25.6	27.8	17.4	20.1	23.9	26.4	26.9	18.5	19.3
7 rooms or more.....	17.8	27.7	23.8	12.2	12.8	17.6	29.2	28.3	14.5	15.2
Median number of rooms.....	5.3	5.6	5.6	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.7	5.7	4.8	4.9
Persons.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person.....	-	-	-	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
2 persons.....	78.6	51.4	66.3	-	-	82.5	58.2	69.8	-	-
3 persons.....	14.0	26.8	18.5	-	-	12.0	26.1	18.8	-	-
4 persons or more.....	7.5	21.8	15.2	-	-	5.5	15.7	11.4	-	-
Median number of persons.....	2.1	2.5	2.3	1.0	1.0	2.1	2.4	2.2	1.0	1.0
Specified owner-occupied units[1].....thousands..	2,350	146	372	214	874	941	115	279	206	633
Median value.....dollars..	14,600	12,700	12,200	10,400	11,500	12,600	12,200	12,100	10,100	10,500
Median value income ratio.....	2.4	2.1	2.3	3.7	4.0+	3.0	2.3	2.6	4.0+	4.0+

- Represents zero.

[1]Limited to one-family homes on less than 10 acres and no business on property.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 45. HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION FOR RENTER-OCCUPIED UNITS WITH HEAD 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS: 1970

Subject	Head, 65 to 74 years					Head, 75 years and over				
	Two-or-more-person households			One-person households		Two-or-more-person households			One-person households	
	Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	Other male head	Female head	Male	Female	Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	Male head	Female head	Male	Female
All renter occupied units.....thousands..	848	88	228	361	961	373	54	145	243	713
Units in structure.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 unit.....	36.0	41.9	36.4	27.2	21.1	34.5	40.2	37.4	27.5	22.7
2 to 4 units.....	25.5	26.3	29.9	21.1	29.6	25.4	26.7	29.2	21.3	29.8
5 to 19 units.....	15.6	15.8	16.9	23.7	21.8	16.3	16.9	16.2	22.7	21.1
20 units or more.....	21.9	15.2	16.3	26.4	26.6	22.9	15.5	16.6	26.9	25.4
Mobile home or trailer.....	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.6	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.6	1.6	1.1
Year structure built.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1965 to March 1970.....	9.5	5.2	5.4	6.1	10.1	9.5	4.7	5.3	6.8	9.6
1960 to 1964.....	9.1	5.4	6.4	5.5	8.2	9.3	5.5	6.1	5.8	8.0
1950 to 1959.....	13.0	9.8	11.9	9.6	12.2	13.3	10.4	11.0	9.7	11.2
1940 to 1949.....	12.3	12.0	13.2	11.6	12.6	12.0	11.0	12.2	11.3	11.8
1939 or earlier.....	56.1	67.6	63.1	67.2	56.9	55.9	68.5	65.5	66.5	59.4
Year moved into unit.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1965 to March 1970.....	49.2	48.4	47.1	56.2	52.8	45.3	42.8	41.4	50.3	46.6
1960 to 1964.....	18.5	18.0	19.0	17.6	19.2	18.7	16.1	17.7	18.0	20.2
1950 to 1959.....	16.0	14.7	15.9	13.1	14.9	16.8	15.6	17.2	14.5	16.8
1949 or earlier.....	16.3	18.9	18.1	13.0	13.1	19.2	25.5	23.7	17.2	16.3
Rooms.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 or 2 rooms.....	5.5	8.3	5.4	44.1	21.4	7.0	8.1	5.9	41.0	23.4
3 rooms.....	25.0	20.1	20.8	28.6	40.1	28.2	19.7	20.9	29.0	39.3
4 rooms.....	33.4	31.4	35.3	16.1	24.2	32.8	31.2	33.7	17.0	22.8
5 rooms.....	21.8	20.1	22.2	6.9	9.8	19.6	21.8	22.2	7.6	9.4
6 rooms or more.....	14.3	20.1	16.3	4.4	4.6	12.4	19.2	17.2	5.4	5.1
Median number of rooms.....	4.1	4.2	4.2	2.7	3.2	4.0	4.2	4.2	2.8	3.2
Persons.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person.....	-	-	-	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
2 persons.....	75.0	62.2	70.5	-	-	84.6	67.5	76.0	-	-
3 persons.....	13.1	20.8	16.2	-	-	9.8	21.0	14.9	-	-
4 persons or more.....	8.8	17.0	13.3	-	-	5.6	11.6	9.0	-	-
Median number of persons.....	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.0	1.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	1.0	1.0
Specified renter-occupied units[1].....thousands..	787	81	218	344	944	351	49	138	233	699
Median gross rent.....dollars..	103	94	94	71	84	98	94	93	71	79
Median contract rent.....dollars..	85	76	75	63	73	81	76	75	63	70
Gross rent as percent of income median..	22.7	26.2	26.2	34.0	35+	29.5	29.4	30.3	35+	35+

- Represents zero.
[1]Excludes family homes on 10 acres or more.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

Persons 65 years old and over are less likely than the total population to suffer an injury but are considerably more likely to have a limitation of activity because of a health or physical condition. They also have a higher average number of restricted activity days and more days of bed disability. In 1972, about 43 percent of the population 65 and over had an activity limitation, compared with 13 percent of the total population. However, 31 percent of the total population, compared with 21 percent of persons 65 years and over, were injured during the year.

Among persons 60 to 64 years old, about one person in four was reported in the 1970 census to have some type of work disability. Of those who were disabled, more than half, 57 percent, had a complete work disability. About 31 percent of all persons of this age with a work disability had been completely disabled for 5 years or more. Another 22 percent had been partially disabled for that length of time.

Among those 65 and over, the disabled women were more likely than their male counterparts to have had a complete work disability, about 65 percent compared with 49 percent, and to have had the disability for 5 years or more, about 39 percent compared with 23 percent. Similarly, Negroes who were disabled were more likely than white persons to have a complete work disability (about 65 percent compared with 56 percent) and to have endured that disability for a period of 5 years or more (about 37 percent compared with 30 percent).

During 1972, about 3.5 million persons 65 and over had some type of mobility limitation because of a chronic condition. About three out of every 10 of these persons had a limitation sufficiently severe to keep them confined to the house, and the remainder, though able to leave the house, needed the assistance of another person or aid such as a wheelchair.

Persons 65 and over experienced an average of about 9 days of restricted activity each quarter in 1972. On the average, they stayed in bed 3 or 4 days during the quarter and missed a day of work because of disability.

On the average, two out of every three persons 65 and over had visited a physician during the previous 6 months and one out of five had visited a dentist. This population group made an average of about 14 visits to a physician and one visit to a dentist during the year. About 7 percent had not visited a physician, and about half of the population 65 and over had not visited a dentist, in at least 5 years. (About 51 percent of all persons 65 years old and over were edentulous in 1971, that is, they had no teeth.)

Although the number of persons using services covered by Medicare during the 5 years from 1967 through 1971 increased each year, the total number of persons enrolled also increased at about the same rate so that a constant share of enrollees, about 79 percent, used covered services. Each year during this period about 75 percent of enrolled men 65 and over and around 80 percent of enrolled women used covered services. The average charge for covered services per person was around $150 in 1967 and in the area of $200 in 1970 and 1971.

By far, the major cause of death in 1972 of persons 65 years and over was heart disease. Among the 10 leading causes, diseases of the heart accounted for as many deaths as did the remaining nine causes combined. The second leading cause was malignant neoplasms, followed by cerebrovascular disease. Accidents rated sixth.

Table 46. SELECTED HEALTH INDICATORS FOR TOTAL POPULATION AND POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX: 1972

Indicator	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	All ages	65 years and over	All ages	65 years and over	All ages	65 years and over
Total population.....thousands..	204,148	19,924	98,445	8,301	105,704	11,623
Percent with activity limitation.....	12.7	43.2	13.2	47.0	12.2	40.5
In major activity.....	9.6	37.9	10.0	43.3	9.2	34.1
Persons injured per 100 persons per year.....	31.5	21.3	37.6	22.3	25.8	20.6
Days of restricted activity per 100 persons per year.....	276.0	552.7	288.6	439.9	264.2	633.2
Days of bed disability associated with injury per 100 persons per year.....	80.3	195.2	76.2	171.8	84.1	211.8

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 47. WORK DISABILITY FOR PERSONS 60 TO 64 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX: 1970

Race and sex	Total population	With work disability		Percent distribution of population with work disability					
		Total	Percent of total population	Total	Partial work disability		Complete work disability		
					Total	Less than 5 years	5 years or more	Total	Less than 5 years	5 years or more
ALL RACES[1]										
Both sexes, 60 to 64 years	8,556,279	2,227,456	26.0	100.0	42.8	20.5	22.3	57.2	26.4	30.7
Male.....	4,004,038	1,126,382	28.1	100.0	50.7	24.8	26.0	49.3	26.4	23.0
Female.....	4,552,241	1,101,074	24.2	100.0	34.7	16.2	18.6	65.3	26.4	38.8
WHITE										
Both sexes, 60 to 64 years	7,753,611	1,947,792	25.1	100.0	43.9	21.0	22.8	56.1	26.3	29.9
Male.....	3,629,523	1,000,370	27.6	100.0	52.0	25.5	26.6	48.0	26.0	21.9
Female.....	4,124,088	947,422	23.0	100.0	35.3	16.3	18.9	64.7	26.5	38.3
NEGRO										
Both sexes, 60 to 64 years	731,073	260,686	35.7	100.0	35.0	16.7	18.2	65.0	27.9	37.2
Male.....	332,016	114,828	34.6	100.0	39.6	18.9	20.8	60.4	29.1	31.2
Female.....	399,057	145,858	36.6	100.0	31.3	14.9	16.3	68.7	26.9	41.9

[1]Includes persons of other races, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 48. LIMITATION OF MOBILITY DUE TO CHRONIC CONDITIONS BY DEGREE OF LIMITATION, FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX: 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Degree of limitation	Total	Male	Female
Total persons, 65 years and over	19,924	8,301	11,623
With mobility limitation	3,505	1,348	2,158
Confined to the house	1,027	407	620
Need help in getting around	1,327	494	833
Have trouble getting around alone	1,151	446	705
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
Total with limitation	100.0	100.0	100.0
Limitations:			
Confined to the house	29.3	30.2	28.7
Need help in getting around	37.9	36.6	38.6
Have trouble getting around alone	32.8	33.1	32.7

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 49. MEAN DAYS OF DISABILITY PER PERSON PER QUARTER FOR ALL PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY TYPE OF DISABILITY AND SEX: 1972

Type of disability and sex	Quarter			
	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
Both sexes, 65 years and over				
Mean days of restricted activity	9.8	9.2	8.7	8.8
Mean days of bed disability	4.2	3.5	3.1	3.3
Mean days lost from work	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.1
Male, 65 years and over				
Mean days of restricted activity	8.1	8.2	9.1	7.7
Mean days of bed disability	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.2
Mean days lost from work	1.5	1.5	2.0	(S)
Female, 65 years and over				
Mean days of restricted activity	11.0	9.8	8.4	9.7
Mean days of bed disability	4.7	3.7	2.9	3.3
Mean days lost from work	1.8	(S)	(S)	1.8

S Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (has more than 30 percent relative standard error).

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 50. TIME INTERVAL SINCE LAST PHYSICIAN AND DENTAL VISIT AND VISITS PER PERSON PER YEAR, BY SEX, FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: 1972

Type of visit and sex	Total persons 65 years and over[1] (thousands)	Time interval since last visit						Visits per person per year
		Total	Under 6 months	6 to 11 months	1 year	2 to 4 years	5 years or more	
PHYSICIAN VISIT								
Both sexes	19,924	100.0	66.3	9.4	7.1	9.4	7.3	14.5
Male	8,301	100.0	63.2	9.4	7.3	11.0	8.7	15.8
Female	11,623	100.0	68.5	9.3	7.0	8.3	6.3	13.7
DENTAL VISIT								
Both sexes	19,924	100.0	20.0	6.9	6.9	15.4	49.2	1.0
Male	8,301	100.0	17.9	7.0	7.7	16.5	49.2	0.9
Female	11,623	100.0	21.4	6.9	6.3	14.5	49.3	1.0

[1]Includes small numbers of persons reporting no visit or timing of last visit unknown, not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 51. SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL INSURANCE (MEDICARE) UTILIZATION AND AVERAGE COVERED CHARGES EACH CALENDAR YEAR: 1967-1971

Subject	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Persons enrolled.....thousands..	21,204	20,684	20,299	19,709	18,653
Using covered services.....thousands..	16,529	16,367	15,961	15,569	14,763
Percent.....	78.0	79.1	78.6	79.0	79.1
Covered charges, total.....millions..	$3,117.3	$3,219.7	$2,939.0	$2,552.1	$2,132.9
Average covered charges per person.....	$191	$200	$188	$167	$148
PERCENT USING COVERED SERVICES					
Both sexes, 65 to 74 years.....	74.7	77.2	76.1	76.5	77.3
Average covered charges per person.....	$177	$188	$185	$162	$139
Both sexes, 75 to 84 years.....	82.1	80.9	82.5	83.2	81.4
Average covered charges per person.....	$214	$209	$184	$168	$158
Both sexes, 85 years and over.....	85.0	86.5	82.2	81.1	84.6
Average covered charges per person.....	$200	$240	$229	$206	$179
Male, 65 years and over.....	75.7	76.1	75.5	75.9	75.1
Average covered charges per person.....	$200	$209	$205	$182	$152
Female, 65 years and over.....	79.5	81.3	80.9	81.2	82.2
Average covered charges per person.....	$186	$194	$177	$158	$145

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 52. RANK OF MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: 1972

Rank	Cause of death	Rate (per 100,000)
1	Diseases of heart.....	2,682.3
2	Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and hematopoietic tissues.....	947.6
3	Cerebrovascular diseases.....	847.0
4	Influenza and pneumonia.....	206.8
5	Arteriosclerosis.....	147.7
6	Accidents.....	132.7
	Motor vehicle accidents.....	36.2
	All other accidents.....	96.4
7	Diabetes.....	130.3
8	Bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma.....	101.1
9	Cirrhosis of liver.....	37.2
10	Hypertension.....	27.1

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, National Center for Health Statistics.

CRIME VICTIMIZATION

The population 65 and over suffered about one-fourth as many crimes, relatively, against their person during the first half of 1973 as did the population 12 years old and over, about 15 crimes per 1,000 population compared with 64 per 1,000. For each of the two age groups, larceny was by far the most frequent crime (about 70 percent) followed by assault.

In crimes against households, those households headed by a person 65 years and over were victimized to a lesser extent than all households for each of the three household crimes considered. Motor vehicle theft accounted for a relatively minor portion of household crimes, but burglary and household larceny accounted for the great majority of cases.

Table 53. VICTIMIZATION RATES FOR SELECTED CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS FOR THE POPULATION 12 YEARS OLD AND OVER AND 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX: FIRST HALF OF 1973

(Rate per 1,000 population)

Crime	Persons 12 years and over			Persons 65 years and over		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total persons.....thousands..	161,502	76,771	84,731	20,149	8,321	11,828
Total selected crimes[1].....	64.0	75.2	53.9	15.1	18.4	12.8
Rape.....	0.5	(B)	1.0	(B)	0	(B)
Robbery:						
With injury.....	1.2	1.6	0.8	1.0	(B)	1.1
Without injury.....	2.3	3.6	1.2	1.5	2.1	1.1
Assault:						
Aggravated.....	5.1	7.7	2.8	0.8	(B)	0.9
Simple.....	8.1	10.3	6.1	1.1	1.6	(B)
Personal larceny.....	46.7	52.0	42.0	10.6	13.2	8.8

B Base too small for rate to be statistically reliable.

[1]Restricted to crimes shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Table 54. VICTIMIZATION RATES FOR SELECTED CRIMES AGAINST HOUSEHOLDS FOR HOUSEHOLD HEADS 12 YEARS OLD AND OVER AND 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER: FIRST HALF OF 1973

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Crime	Head, 12 years and over	Head, 65 years and over
Total households.....thousands..	68,978	13,397
Total selected crimes[1].....	103.9	55.3
Burglary.....	44.0	28.5
Household larceny.....	51.4	24.8
Motor vehicle theft.....	8.5	2.0

[1]Restricted to crimes shown separately.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

APPENDIX

References for Tables

Table	1	Population Estimates and Projections, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 311, 511, 529.
	2	Population Estimates and Projections, Current Population Reports, P-25, No. 541.
	3	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 276.
	4	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 276.
	5	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 276.
	6	Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1960. Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970.
	7	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 271. Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1960. Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970.
	8	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-4C, 1970.
	9	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-4C, 1970.
	10	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-3A, 1970.
	11	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-4E, 1970.
	12	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-1A, 1970.
	13	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-1A, 1970.
	14	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 273.
	15	Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970.
	16	Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1960. Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970. Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 274.
	17	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-5C, 1970.
	18	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 217.
	19	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 253.
	20	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 275.
	21	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-6E, 1970.
	22	Veterans Administration, unpublished data.
	23	Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970. Employment and Earnings, Volume 21, No. 7.
	24	Decennial Census, Volume I, U.S. Summary, 1970.
	25	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-6B, 1970.
	26	Special Labor Force Report No. 148, Educational Attainment of Workers.
	27	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-20, No. 274.
	28	Employment and Earnings, Volume 20, No. 10.
	29	Employment and Earnings, Volume 20, No. 7.
	30	Employment and Earnings, Volume 20, No. 10.
	31	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-7C, 1970.
	32	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 97.
	33	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 97.
	34	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 97.
	35	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 97.
	36	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-8A, 1970.
	37	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-8A, 1970.
	38	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 95.
	39	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 98.
	40	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 98.
	41	Current Population Survey, Current Population Reports, P-60, No. 98.
	42	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-9A, 1970.
	43	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-4A, 1970.
	44	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, HC(7)-2, 1970.
	45	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, HC(7)-2, 1970.
	46	Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, No. 85.
	47	Decennial Census, Subject Reports, PC(2)-6C, 1970.
	48	Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, No. 85.
	49	Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, No. 85.
	50	Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, No. 85.
	51	Health Insurance Statistics, Current Medical Survey, Report 26.
	52	Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Volume 23, No. 8, Supplement (2)
	53	Criminal Victimization in the United States, Volume I.
	54	Criminal Victimization in the United States, Volume I.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Source of Data. Most of the estimates in this report are based on data from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census and from the Decennial Censuses of Population and Housing, particularly the 1970 census. Other data were provided by various governmental agencies which include the Bureau of Labor Statistics; Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Veterans Administration; and the Department of Justice. Brief descriptions of the sources and/or the procedures by which the data were obtained are presented below.

Current Population Survey (CPS). The following table provides a description of some aspects of the Current Population Survey design.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

Time period	Number of sample areas	Number of counties[1]	Households eligible		Households visited, not interviewed[2]
			Interviewed	Not interviewed	
1972 to present.....	461	923	45,000	2,000	8,000
August 1971 to July 1972.....	449	863	45,000	2,000	8,000
January 1967 to July 1971....	449	863	48,000	2,000	8,500
1966.....	357	701	33,500	1,500	6,000

[1]These are the number of counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

[2]These are households which were visited, but were found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

The estimating procedure used in the Current Population Survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates are based on statistics from the previous Decennial Census of Population, statistics of births, deaths, immigration and emigration, and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces. Some of the CPS estimates for this report have already been published in the P-20 and P-60 series of CPS derived data.

Decennial Census of Population. Decennial census data in the report are based on complete counts or on the samples associated with the census. All data in this report from the 1950 or earlier decennial censuses are based on complete counts. Descriptions of the 5-, 15-, and 20-percent samples from the 1970 census are found in the appropriate census publications. The 1970 Decennial Census tables appear in three special series of volumes: two for Population counts—PC(1) and PC(2) and one for Housing counts—HC7. Additionally, 1970 census data appear in U.S. Summary volumes.

Veterans Administration Data. The data of table 22 were obtained by the Veterans Administration from administrative records.

Current Medicare Survey (CMS). Data collected from the Current Medicare Survey (CMS) for this report (data from 1967 through 1971) are based on a sample which was spread over 105 areas with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The CMS was a sample of those persons who received either or both parts of Medicare[1] benefits. The sample persons were selected directly from the Medicare rolls for each sample PSU. The full sample, which was interviewed monthly for each of 15 consecutive months, consisted of about 5,200 persons. For about 2 percent of the persons visited, on the average, interviews were not obtained.

[1]Medicare has two parts: (1) hospital benefits and (2) supplemental benefits.

Health Interview Survey (HIS). Data collected from the Health Interview Survey in 1972 are based on a sample spread over 357 areas with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The HIS sample of 1972 consisted of approximately 57,000 assigned households, of which 11,000 were vacant, demolished, or occupied by persons not in the scope of the survey. The 46,000 eligible-occupied households in 1972 yielded a probability sample of about 134,000 persons in 44,000 interviewed households.

Vital Statistics Data. Data on mortality rates are published by the Office of Health Statistics Analysis of the National Center for Health Statistics, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The children-ever-born statistics of table 10 are based on 1970 census data.

Crime Data. The data on crime are published by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration and were obtained from the National Crime Survey. The National Crime Survey is based on data obtained from a stratified multi-stage cluster sample from 376 strata, and is conducted on a quarterly basis to produce quarterly estimates and rates of crime victimizations. Approximately 75,000 housing units and other living quarters are designated for the sample. Of these, about 12,500 units are found to be vacant, demolished, converted to nonresidential use, or ineligible for some other reason. An additional 2,500 households are not interviewed because no one is at home after repeated visits by the interviewer, the residents refuse to be interviewed, are temporarily absent, or are unavailable for some other reason.

Reliability of the Estimates. Since many of the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting, as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The reliability of an estimate is described in terms of standard errors which are primarily measures of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of certain response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure, as such, any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error, and the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, and most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g., by the use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

The figures presented in all the standard error tables are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items (for a given subject matter) and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors provided are an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors for a given subject matter rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more.

Comparability with other data. Data obtained from the Current Population Surveys and other governmental sources are not entirely comparable. This is due in large part to differences in interviewer training and experience and in the differing survey processes. This is an additional component of error not reflected in the standard error tables. Therefore, caution should be used in comparing results between these different sources.

Data based on the CPS sample. Tables of standard errors for estimates and percentages for characteristics pertaining to the total or white population (tables A-1 and A-3) and to Negro and other races (tables A-2 and A-4) are presented below. When two or more characteristics have nearly equal standard errors (e.g., total population and white population), only one table is presented to represent them. Table A-5 represents factors which are to be applied to the figures in tables A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4 to produce standard errors for the various subject matter areas. For example, to produce approximate standard errors for estimates of total persons or white persons in low income categories based on data collected in the CPS after January 1967, multiply the appropriate figures in tables A-1 or A-3 by the factor 1.7. The factors for families and households should be used for items which can typically appear only once in a given household, e.g., "Number of household heads."

Table A-1. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS, TOTAL OR WHITE POPULATION

CPS Estimates

(In thousands. 68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
100.....	14	5,000...	88
250.....	23	7,500...	99
500.....	32	10,000..	103
1,000....	44	12,500..	101
2,000....	61	15,000..	92
3,000....	73	17,500..	74
4,000....	82	20,000..	36

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table A-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

Table A-2. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS, NEGRO AND OTHER RACES

CPS Estimates

(In thousands. 68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
75.....	14	750.....	35
100.....	16	1,000...	36
200.....	22	1,250...	34
300.....	26	1,500...	28
400.....	30	1,800...	11
500.....	32		

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table A-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors. Table 19 of this report shows that in November 1972 there were 11,726,000 females of all races 65 years old and over in the United States. Table A-1 shows the standard error of an estimate of this size to be approximately 101,600 by use of linear interpolation. The factor in table A-5 for voting for the total or the white population is 1.1; thus the resulting standard error is approximately 112,000 (101,600 x 1.1). The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 112,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 224,000 (twice the standard error).

Table 19 also shows that of the 2,878,000 males 75 and over of all races, 14.1 percent reported they were registered to vote and also reported that they did not vote. Table A-3 shows the standard error of 14.1 percent on a base of 2,878,000 to be approximately 0.9 percentage points. The factor from table A-5 for this characteristic is again 1.1. Applying the factor 1.1 to the standard error obtained from table A-3 for 14.1 percent provides an approximation of the standard error to be about 1.0 percentage points. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 14.1 percent would be within 1.0 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 2.0 (2 x 1.0) percentage points of a complete census figure, i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 12.1 to 16.1 percent.

Standard error of a difference. For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard error of each estimate considered separately. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error.

Illustration of the computation of the standard error of a difference. Table 19 of this report shows that of the 5,470,000 males 65 to 74 years old of all races in November 1972, 9.7 percent reported they were registered but did not vote. Thus, the apparent difference between the percent of males of all races who were 65 to 74 who were registered to vote, but did not, and the percent of males 75 and over who were registered to vote, but did not, is 4.4 percent (14.1 - 9.7). The standard error of 14.1 percent is 1.0 percent as shown above. Table A-3 shows the standard error of an estimate of 9.7 percent for a base of 5,470,000 persons to be approximately 0.6 percentage points. Again, table A-5 shows a factor of 1.1 for voting for persons of all races. Applying this factor to the standard error obtained from table A-3 provides an approximation to the standard error of 0.7 percentage points. The standard error of the estimated difference of 4.4 percent is 1.2 percent $= \sqrt{(.7)^2 + (1.0)^2}$. This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the sample would differ from the change derived using complete census figures by less than 1.2 percentage points. The 68 percent confidence interval around the 4.4 percent difference is from 3.2 to 5.6 percent, i.e., 4.4% ± 1.2%. A conclusion that the average estimate of the difference derived from all possible samples of the same size and design lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 2.0 to 6.8 or 4.4 ± 2(1.2). Since the 95

percent confidence interval does not contain the number zero, we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the proportion of males 65 to 74 is different from the proportion of males 75 and over for the category of these persons who reported they had registered to vote and reported that they did not vote.

Standard error of a median. The sampling variability of an estimated median depends upon the form as well as on the size of the distribution from which the median is determined. An approximate method for measuring the reliability of a median is to determine an interval about the estimated median, such that there is a stated

Table A-3. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES, TOTAL OR WHITE POPULATION

CPS Estimates

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentage					
	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	35 or 65	50
100	2.0	3.1	4.3	6.2	6.9	7.2
250	1.3	2.0	2.7	3.9	4.3	4.5
500	0.9	1.4	1.9	2.8	3.1	3.2
1,000	0.6	1.0	1.4	2.0	2.2	2.3
2,000	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.6
3,000	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.3
4,000	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.1
5,000	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.0
7,500	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8
10,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7
15,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
20,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
50,000	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
100,000	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
150,000	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
195,000	0.05	0.07	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table A-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

Table A-4. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES, NEGRO AND OTHER RACES

CPS Estimates

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentage					
	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	35 or 65	50
75	2.7	4.2	5.8	8.4	9.2	9.6
100	2.3	3.6	5.0	7.2	8.0	8.4
200	1.7	2.6	3.5	5.1	5.6	5.9
300	1.4	2.1	2.9	4.2	4.6	4.8
400	1.2	1.8	2.5	3.6	4.0	4.2
500	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.2	3.6	3.7
750	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.6	2.9	3.1
1,000	0.7	1.2	1.6	2.3	2.5	2.6
1,250	0.7	1.0	1.4	2.0	2.3	2.4
1,500	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.9	2.1	2.2
1,800	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.0

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table A-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors.

Table A-5. FACTORS TO BE APPLIED TO TABLES A-1, A-2, A-3, AND A-4 TO ESTIMATE STANDARD ERRORS OF THE CPS DATA FOR DIFFERENT POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Type of data	CPS data collected from January 1967 to present
Marital Status:	
Family characteristics	0.8
Total or white persons	1.3
Negro and other races	1.3
Movers	2.2
Nonmovers	1.5
Educational Attainment:	
Total or white	1.0
Negro and other races	1.0
Literacy:	
Total or white	1.0
Negro and other races	1.0
Voting:	
Total or white	1.1
Negro and other races	1.1
Employment or Nonlabor Force: (Monthly)	
Total or white:	
Both sexes	0.8
Male only, female only	0.7
Negro and other races	0.7
Agriculture	1.0
Employment: Annual Averages	
Total or white	
Both sexes	0.6
Male only, female only	0.5
Negro and other races	0.4
Agriculture	0.8
Income--Persons:	
Total or white	0.9
Negro and other races	0.7
Income--Families:	
Total or white	0.7
Negro and other races	0.6
Low Income--Persons:[1]	
Total or white	1.7
Negro and other races	1.4
Low Income--Families:	
Total or white	0.7
Negro and other races	0.6

[1]For the low-income data from 1966 of table 38, additionally multiply by the factor 1.2. For the data in table 39 which is broken down by Metropolitan or Nonmetropolitan residence, additionally multiply by the factor 1.4.

degree of confidence that the median based on a complete census lies within the interval. The following procedure may be used to estimate confidence limits of a median based on sample data: (1) From tables A-3 and A-4 and the factor table A-5, determine the standard error of a 50-percent characteristic using the appropriate base; (2) add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error determined in step (1); and (3) using the distribution of the characteristic, read off the confidence interval corresponding to the two points established in step (2). A two-standard error confidence interval may be determined by finding the values corresponding to the 50 percent plus and minus twice the standard error determined in step (1).

Illustration of the computation of a confidence interval for a median. Table 26 shows that the median number of years of education for males 65 years old and over who were not in the labor force in March 1972 was 8.6. The size, or base, of the distribution from which this median was determined is 6,233,000 persons.

1. Table A-3 shows that the standard error of 50 percent on a base of 6,233,000 is about 0.9 percent. Applying the appropriate factor from table A-5, the standard error of 50 percent for an Employment or Non Labor Force, Total or White, Male Only, characteristic is 0.9 x 0.7 = 0.6 percent.

2. To obtain a two-standard error confidence interval on the estimated median, initially add to and subtract from 50 percent twice the standard error found in step 1. This yields percentage limits of 48.8 and 51.2.

3. From table 26 it can be seen that 46.9 percent (956,300) had about 8 years of education and 14.2 percent (289,500) had more than 8 and less than 11 years of education. By linear interpolation the lower limit on the estimate is found to be about

$$8 + (3)\left(\frac{48.8 - 46.9}{14.2}\right) = 8.4$$

Similarly, the upper limit may be found by linear interpolation to be about

$$8 + (3)\left(\frac{51.2 - 46.9}{14.2}\right) = 8.9$$

Thus, the 95 percent confidence interval around 8.6 ranges from 8.4 to 8.9.

Treatment of Nonresponse in Mobility. For about five percent of the persons for whom information was obtained in March 1974, the interviewer was unable to obtain information about residence in 1970. The usual procedure for treatment of nonresponse is to create data by an imputation procedure based on known population characteristics. However, no attempt was made to adjust for nonresponse for mobility and nonmobility. Table 14 reflects this nonresponse by having percentages of movers and nonmovers add up to only about 95, rather than 100, percent. As a consequence, the estimates for percentages of movers and of nonmovers should both be higher by some portion of the approximate five percent. It is unknown, however, how the five percent nonrespondents to residence in 1970 are distributed in regard to mobility.

RELIABILITY OF NON-CPS DATA

Data based on samples from the 1970 Decennial Census. Standard errors of all data, except for fertility rates, from the 5-percent sample of the decennial census shown in this report, are small enough to be disregarded. The standard errors may be found in the appropriate census volumes, PC(1), PC(2) or HC(7). Table A-6 of this report contains standard errors of 1970-based fertility rates.

Illustration of the use of the fertility standard error table. Table 10 of this report shows that in 1970 there were 837,000 black women ever married who were 65 years old and over. These women averaged 3,137 children per thousand women. Table A-6 shows the standard error of 3,137 children on a base of 837,000 women to be approximately five children. This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than five. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 10 (twice the standard error); i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 3,127 to 3,147 children ever born per thousand married black women 65 years old and over.

Data based on Vital Statistics. Since sample statistics are not involved in the numerator or denominator of any vital rate (mortality or fertility), the standard errors for such rates are zero.

Data based on the Health Interview Survey: United States - 1972. Standard errors for data tables 46, 48, 49 and 50 of this report can be obtained in the publication from which these data have been extracted. This publication is Vital Health Statistics, Series 10- Number 85, produced by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Data based on the Current Medicare Survey. Standard errors for data table 51 of this report may be found in the Current Medicare Survey Report, Supplementary Medical Insurance, First Quarter 1971 - CMS 20.

Crime Data. Tables A-7 and A-8 contain standard errors for the crime data of data tables 53 and 54, respectively, of this report.

Table A-6. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED FERTILITY RATES

Census Data

(68 chances out of 100)

Women ever married (thousands)	Children ever born per 1,000 women				
	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000
50	15	18	21	25	28
100	10	13	15	17	20
200	7	9	11	12	14
250	7	8	9	11	13
500	5	6	7	8	9
750	4	5	5	6	7
1,000	3	4	5	5	6
2,000	2	3	3	4	4
5,000	1	2	2	2	3
10,000	1	1	2	2	2

Table A-7. STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATED PERSONAL VICTIMIZATION RATES FROM THE NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of rate (thousands)	Estimated rate (per 1,000 persons)								
	.5 or 999.5	.75 or 999.25	1 or 999	2.5 or 997.5	5 or 995	10 or 990	30 or 970	50 or 950	100 or 900
5,000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.8	3.1	4.0	5.5
10,000	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.3	2.2	2.8	3.9
15,000	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.8	2.3	3.1
20,000	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.5	2.0	2.7
25,000	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.4	1.8	2.5
50,000	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.7
80,000	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.3
100,000	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.2
120,000	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.8	1.1
165,000	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9

Table A-8. STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATED HOUSEHOLD VICTIMIZATION RATES FROM THE NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of rate (thousands)	Estimated rate (per 1,000 households)						
	1 or 999	2.5 or 997.5	5 or 995	10 or 990	50 or 950	100 or 900	250 or 750
10,000	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.0	2.3	3.2	4.6
15,000	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.9	2.7	3.8
20,000	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.6	2.2	3.1
25,000	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.5	2.0	3.0
35,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.7	2.5
50,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.1
69,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.2	1.8